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The Bombay Gazette.

No. 30,027—New Series. BOMBAY:—TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1893.

PRICE, 8 ANNAS.

THE INDIAN RAILWAY TRAVELLERS' GUIDE,
CONTAINING
The Special Time and Fare Tables of all the Indian Railway Companies, Steam Boats, and Dak Companies. Places of Interest along the Coast. Postal and Telegraphic Information, the Routes between the Principal Towns of Northern, Central, Southern, and Western India, &c.
WITH A MAP OF INDIA.
BOMBAY:
Printed & Published at the *Bombay Gazette* Steam Press.

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Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	1893.
B.I. PENINSULAR	5045	1200	A. C. Loggia	11th Aug.
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† ASSAM	3060	500	T. F. Creery	29th "
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FOR AUGUST, 1893.
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The distressing symptoms of NERVOUS EXHAUSTION, loss of MUSCULAR POWER, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, PARALYSIS, EPILEPSY, &c., are speedily removed by means of **Pulvermacher's World-famed Galvanic Belts**, which convey the electric current direct to the affected parts, gradually stimulating and strengthening all the nerves and muscles, and speedily arresting all symptoms of premature waste and decay.

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[ESTABLISHED, 1847.]

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The Undersigned, of course, continues to be a Trustee in respect of Trust-deed of seventh day of January, 1886, and of the Will of Mr Jairazbhoy Peerbhoy.

મેરાલી મામદ ચીનાઈ,
i.e., MEHERALLY MAHOMED CHINOY.

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. SORABJI NOWROJI COOPER has contracted to SELL to Mr. NEMCHUND SOBHAGCHUND the property hereunder described. All persons having claims against the said property by way of inheritance, gift, mortgage, lease, sale, lien or otherwise are hereby required to make them known in writing to the Undersigned at their Office, No. 91, Meadows Street, Fort, within 14 days from the date hereof; otherwise the purchase will be completed without reference to any claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.—Dated this 7th day of August, 1893.

All that piece or parcel of vacant land or ground admeasuring about 973 square yards, situate, lying and being on the South side of the Public road, called Malabar Hill Road, without the Fort of Bombay, in the Registration Sub-district of Bombay, and assessed by the Collector of land Revenue (together with the other properties of the vendor) under Collector's New No. 8-3019, and New Survey Nos. 4-7291, and 6711, and bounded as follows :—that is to say, on or towards the East by the vacant ground of the Municipality, on or towards the West by the vendor's land contracted to be sold to Bhugwandas Shivji, on or towards the South by Back Bay, on or towards the North by the said Malabar Hill Road.

MANSUKHLAL DAMODAR & JAMSETJI,
Purchaser's Attorneys.

SPECIALITIES
OF
REAL HAVANA CIGARS.
(*By Direct Importation.*)

		Rs.	a.
Reg Reina, per box of	25...	7	8
*Corea ,,	25...	5	0
Trabucos ,,	25...	3	4
Caliope ,,	50...	6	0
Semiramis ,,	100...	11	0
Damas ,,	50...	8	0
Romeo y Julietta ,,	50...	5	0
Hidalgas ,,	100...	10	0
Zenobias (Spotted Cabanas) ,,	100...	9	0
Carolina ,,	100...	8	0
Delice, per packets of	20...	1	0

* Gold foil round each Cigar.

I take Especial Care in selecting the very finest Quality, so as to combine in my abovenamed Cigars a regularity of Smoking with the most delicate and delicious Flavours.

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GENERAL TOBACCONIST,
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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital.....$ 100,00,000
Reserve Fund.....$ 36,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors.....$ 100,00,000

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T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*

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SALES BY AUCTION.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co., No. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

SALE OF THE MATERIALS of a House situated at the Junction of the Second Bhoiwada and Bhuleshwar Roads, in the vicinity of the present Bhuleshwar market.

Under instructions from the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, Messrs. MEHRJEE JOHNSTON and Co. will sell, for removal, by Public Auction, on TUESDAY, the 15th August, 1893, at 4 p.m., on the premises, the whole of the materials of the said house.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to the undersigned.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.
Bombay, August 8, 1893.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

THE POWER of ATTORNEY granted by me on the 13th day of June, 1893, to S. B. PEREIRA, has from this day been CANCELLED.

P. J. BRAIZE,
Managing Proprietor,
Bombay Typewriting Co.
Bombay, 5th August, 1893.

NOTICE

IS hereby given that under recent orders from Government the old Rangmahal Buildings at Satara, including the site, and the ruins, basement and Masonry, and all Trees standing thereon, with the reservation only of the spring of wafer at the back, and of the right of way thereto will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, to be held in the Rangmahal Grounds, on TUESDAY, the 29th day of August, 1893, commencing at 12 o'clock noon. The sale will include certain lots of old Timber lying in the building, some of which are ornamental work, also certain stone pedastals, and all loose stones lying on the site. The final bid will have to be approved by Government before the sale can be considered complete, and the final bidder must deposit 5 per cent. of the purchase money at once, as earnest money to be forfeited if he fails to fulfil the purchase on his bid being approved by Government.

2. The Building and the site may be Inspected at any time by intending purchasers on intimation being given the previous day to the Sub-Divisional Officer, in charge Satara Central Sub-Division, at the Office of the Executive Engineer.

3. For terms and conditions of sale, and any other information that may be desired, apply to the EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, Satara District, or to the above Sub-Divisional Officer, on any day during the office hours, at the Executive Engineer's Office.

By Order of the Executive Engineer, Satara District,
C. SHRINIVASACHAR,
Assistant Engineer, Satara Central Sub-Division.

EAST COAST RAILWAY.

CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF STORES OF LOCAL MANUFACTURE.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the Office of the Manager and Engineer-in-Chief at Waltair up to Noon of the 13th September, 1893, for the SUPPLY of STORES of LOCAL MANUFACTURE, from 1st October, 1893, to 31st March, 1894.

II. The Stores, which consist of Oils, Rope, Tallow, Hardware, Tinware, Cloth of descriptions, Leather Goods, etc., etc., will require to be delivered as required at the Store Godowns, at Vizagapatam or Waltair, and rates tendered should be free of all charges for such delivery.

III. The Manager and Engineer-in-Chief will consider only such Tenders as are submitted in the recognised form, printed copies of which are obtainable from the Office of the Undersigned on payment of Rs. 2, and where further information can be obtained.

IV. Each tender should be accompanied by the amount of earnest money prescribed on the reverse of tender form, without which it will not be considered.

V. The Manager and Engineer-in-Chief does not bind himself to accept the whole or any part of a Tender, nor to accept the lowest or any Tender.

H. T. GWYTHER,
Chief Storekeeper, East Coast Railway.
Waltair, 17th July, 1893.

NOTICE is hereby given that Messrs. MEHRJEE JOHNSTONE and COMPANY, Auctioners, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, by order of the Mortgagee, BAI DINBAI, Widow and Executrix of the late CURSETJEE RUSTOMJEE SETTNA, and with the consent of N. C. M'cleod, Esq., the Official Assignee and Assignee of the estates of the Mortgagors, THUCKER KHATAO NATHA and THUCKER CANJA NATHA, the properties specified in the undermentioned Particulars of Sale mortgaged to the said Bai Dinbai in virtue of an Indenture of Mortgage made the 6th day of February, 1892, and made between the said Mortgagors of the one part and the said Mortgagee of the other part.

LOT No. 1.

All that piece of land (whereof Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Bart, and Bai Dinbai, Widow and Executrix of the late Seth Nusserwanjee Manockjee Petit, are the Fazendars, entitled to an annual rent of Two Rupees three-quarters and fifteen reas), with the building thereon, situate in Bombay, to the South-West of the Colaba Company's New Road, commonly called Pasta Lane, assessed by the Municipality under No. 10, admeasuring about one hundred feet in length and thirty feet in breadth, and now or lately bounded on the South-East by the Warehouse No. 9 of Rewagur Coovergur, on the South-West by the ground of the Colaba Company, on the North-East by the said Colaba Company's New Road, and on the North-West by the Warehouse No. 11, of Zeena Bhoga, at present in the occupation of Mooljee Jaitha and Company.

LOT No. 2.

All that piece of land with the buildings thereon, situate at Walkeshwar, in Bombay, and bounded as follows, that is to say, on the East by a public passage, on the West and South by the property of Trioumba Valdya, and on the North by the property of Damodhar Madhowjee, and admeasuring about thirty-nine feet in breadth and sixty-four feet in length.

LOT No. 3.

All that piece of land with the Bungalow and other buildings thereon, situate at Turdeo or Breach Candy Road, in Bombay, admeasuring about (3,350) three thousand three hundred and fifty square yards, and bounded on the North by the property of Navazbai Minbutcewalla, on the East by another property of the said Navazbai, on the South partly by the property of Muncherjee Bomanjee Panthakey, and partly by the property of the Alliance Cotton Mill Silk Manufacturing Company, and on the West by the said Breach Candy Road, registered by the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 21, Collector's Nos. 9, 10 and 60 and Foras Land Survey Old Nos. 458, 459 and 460, and New No. 3390, and assessed by the Municipality under No. 677, lately in the occupation of Mr. Cursetji Nusserwanji Seervai, and now vacant.

LOT No. 4.

FIRST.—All that piece of leasehold land with the dwelling-house thereon, situate in Bombay on the East side of the Cross Road, on the Elphinstone Estate, assessed by the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 3186, and by the Municipality under No. 32 B, and admeasuring about (227 3-9) two hundred and twenty-seven square yards and three-ninths of another square yard, and bounded on the North by ground belonging to the Port Trust, on the South by the premises in the occupation of Dewjee Ossa, on the East partly by the premises in the occupation of Hajeerbaul and partly by the premises in the occupation of Gopal Megbjee, and on the West by the said Cross Road.

SECONDLY.—All that piece of leasehold land, with the dwelling house thereon, situate in Bombay, on the east side of the Cross Road, on the Elphinstone Estate, assessed by the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 3185, and admeasuring about 68 8-9 square yards, and bounded on the north by vacant ground belonging to the Port Trust, on the south by the land lastly hereinbefore described, on the east by land in the occupation of Gopal Megjee, and on the west by the Cross Road aforesaid.

The sales will be held on the respective premises on the undermentioned dates, at 4-30 p.m., each day :—

Lot No. 1—MONDAY, the 7th August, 1893.
Lot No. 2—TUESDAY, the 8th August, 1893.
Lot No. 3—FRIDAY, the 11th August, 1893.
Lot No. 4—MONDAY, the 14th August, 1893.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale apply to the Undersigned at their Office, No. 89, Medows Street, Fort.—Dated this 26th day of July, 1893.

NANU & HORMUSJEE,
Solicitors to the Mortgagee.

NOTICE.

WE beg to announce that we have THIS DAY APPOINTED Messrs. BEYNON & Co., Esplanade Road, Bombay, our LOCAL RETAIL AGENTS, and all orders for less than 1 doz. Bottles or 2 doz. Half Bottles of any particular Brand will be executed by Messrs. Beynon & Co., at our advertised quotations, they having been fully Stocked with our well-known Wines, etc.

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A BOON TO MEN — Who suffer from NERVOUS DEBILITY Loss of VIGOUR, EXHAUSTED VITALITY KIDNEY DISEASES, &c. A Treatise explaining the renowned MARSTON treatment by local absorption, the only positive cure without Stomach Medicines, will be sent in plain wrapper, post free, upon application. The MARSTON REMEDY Co., 492, High Holborn, LONDON.

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of the Blood, whether the after-effect of Contagious Disease, hereditary taint, or foul matter of any description, are positively carried out of the system by taking "CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE," the great Blood Purifier and Restorer. For cleansing and clearing the Blood from all impurities it cannot be too highly recommended. For Scrofula, Scurvys Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, and Sores of all kinds, it is a never-failing and permanent Cure. It is the only real specific for Gout and Rheumatic Pains, for it removes the *cause* from the blood and bones. To be had of Chemists, &c., everywhere at 2s. 9d. and 11s. per bottle. Thousands of Testimonials.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS

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Rs. 10,000 payable at death would cost at the rate of—

Rs. 26-13-4 per mensem (*a*) If premiums are payable for whole of life; or
Rs. 35-1-4 " (*b*) If premiums are limited to 20 years; or
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AFTER being three years in force, each year's payment of premium under *b*, *c*, *d* secures proportionate part of Sum Assured as explained in Prospectus. For instance, after five years a man Assured under plan *b* would be entitled to a *Free* Paid-up Policy for 5/20ths of Sum Assured, *viz.*, Rs. 2,500, should he wish to discontinue future payments.

THE same provisions, if commenced at age 40 n. b., would cost respectively (*a*) Rs. 34-9-4, (*b*) Rs. 41-14-8, (*c*) Rs. 48-5-4, (*d*) Rs. 91-2-8 per mensem.

F. A. PREVOST,
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N.B.—The Standard Company's Indian Rates have been recently reduced.

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SECURITY.—The Universal has a larger proportion of Funds to the Assurances in force than any other Life Office doing business in India.

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The Bonuses are paid annually, and can be taken in reduction of Premium, or added to the Sum Assured.

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Risks accepted on First-Class Native Lives.
Claims settled immediately on Proof of Death.
Please apply to
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Are a safe and speedy Remedy for the above dangerous complaints, Discharges and Diseases of the Urinary Organ, generally, which too frequently harass the sufferer over the best years of life, and end only in an agonising death. For weakness across the loins, sandy or other deposit in the water, and in all cases of renal or urinary disturbance, they are, indeed, unrivalled. They correct acidity of the stomach, and promote the functions of the kidneys, thereby preventing stone in the bladder, &c. Many complaints, long supposed to be nervous, often arise solely from contamination of the blood with certain impurities which should have been carried off by the kidneys. Thousands of testimonials from grateful Patients attest their marvellous efficacy. In packages, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d.

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PILULÆ VITÆ, OR
VEGETABLE LIFE PILLS.

The most wonderful Pills in the world for Indigestion, Biliousness, and all Disorders of the Liver, Stomach and Bowels. Their action is mild yet effectual; they do not gripe or purge, and for habitual costiveness, loss of appetite, disturbed sleep, harassing dreams, wind, indigestion, sick headache, furred tongue, unpleasant taste in the mouth on rising in the morning, sallowness, scurvy, pimples, blotches, boils, &c., they are of unexampled efficacy; and being prepared solely from the vegetable kingdom, may be taken by the most delicate of *either sex*, equally with the robust, merely regulating the dose according to the printed directions accompanying each box.

Those who are subject to occasional attacks of Biliousness instead of resorting to the old-fashioned blue pill and nauseous black draught, will do well to keep a box of these Pills by them and never leave home without them : an attack may thus be nipped in the bud by taking a dose or two, which, if allowed to run its course for a few days, would probably almost completely prostrate its unhappy victim. Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d.

DR. DE ROOS'
WORLD-FAMED
GUTAE VITAE,
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This remarkable rejuvenating essence strengthens the vitality of the whole system, gives energy to the muscles, and speedily restores the impaired powers of life, imparting strength and manly vigour to the most debilitated and worn-out constitution. Those who suffer from Premature Decay, or deficiency of the Vital Forces owing to long residence in India, or any other cause, will find this medicine just what they require. Equally adapted for the studious and sedentary; the aged and infirm; the nervous and debilitated; as also for delicate females and weakly children. All sufferers from loss of appetite, nervous headache, lassitude, and despondency —too often accompanied with suicidal thoughts—should make immediate and fair unprejudiced trial of this wonderful medicine, which is daily effecting the most remarkable cures in patients who had been given up by the Faculty. In all cases of nervous and functional debility (arising from whatever cause), it is truly unrivalled. To married persons especially, this preparation will prove invaluable, giving strength and vigour in place of lassitude and incapacity.—Price 11s., or four times that quantity, 33s. per bottle.

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The old SUN LIFE OFFICE, OF LONDON, guarantees a Bonus of Rs. 2 per cent. or Rs. 20 per Rs. 1,000 per annum on every participating Policy as described in the Prospectus.

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The HAMBURG-BREMEN FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	" 6,000,000
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The BALOISE FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	Frs 10,000,000
The BATAVIA FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	Fl 3,000,000
The SAMARANG FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	" 2,000,000
The FIRE INSURANCE Co., "INSULINDE," CAPITAL	" 1,000,000

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The GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL, incl'g. RESERVE FUND	£ 3,000,000
The NEW SWISS-LLOYD TRANSPORT INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.	Frs 4,000,000
The BATAVIA MARINE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	Fl 3,000,000
The SAMARANG MARINE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	" 2,000,000
The NETHERLANDS-INDIA SEA & FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.	" 2,250,000
The BAVARIAN LLOYD MARINE INSURANCE Co., Ld., CAPITAL	M 4,000,000

The FIRE and MARINE INSURANCE in the above Companies apply to the UNDERSIGNED, who can offer all FACILITIES and most FAVOURABLE TERMS. Rates and other particulars can be obtained on application.

VOLKART BROTHERS,
Agents.

INSURANCES.

It is universally acknowledged that the most successful Institution of its kind in India
IS THE
ORIENTAL LIFE OFFICE.

THIS RESULT HAS BEEN SECURED BY THREE THINGS :

I. UNQUESTIONABLE SECURITY.
(Funds in Government Paper Only.)
II. MODERATE PREMIUMS.
(The Lowest Safe Rates.)
III. LIBERAL CONDITIONS.
(Every Concession to Policy-holders.)

If Your Life is not already insured, delay no longer, but secure at once

PROVISION FOR OLD AGE.

Or for your family in case of untimely death, by an ENDOWMENT NEW PLAN

POLICY FOR Rs. 5,000,

Payable at Age 55; or Previous Death,
At the following rates per month; intermediate ages at proportionate rates :—

Rs. 11 2 0, at age 21 next Birthday
Rs. 13 2 0 " 25 "
Rs. 16 4 0 " 30 "
Rs. 21 1 0 " 35 "
Rs. 29 0 0 " 40 "

A fully-paid-up Policy in the form of a negotiable Promissory-note granted for every payment made.

MARK THE BUSINESS DONE!

In 1892..... Proposals for over Rs. 1,00,00,000
To date ..... Proposals for Rs. 10,87,100 in excess of corresponding period last year.

LIFE ASSURANCE AT COST PRICE.

Ratio of Expenses to Total Premiums : only 16·1.

Write at once for Prospectus, Proposal Forms, and any further information, to—

D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F.I.A.,
Manager and Actuary,
Albert Building, Bombay.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY,
CAPITAL—£3,000,000.

Absolute Security Funds now exceed ..£8,486,434
Funds invested in the best and safest Securities amount to.....£7,894,357

FIRE BRANCH.

POLICIES COVERING RISK on MERCHANDISE BUILDINGS, SPINNING MILLS, COTTON and JUTE PRESSES, SHOPS, BUNGALOWS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, HOTELS and CLUBS, both in BOMBAY and in the MOFUSSIL, granted on most favorable Terms COALS on the BUNDERS and KEROSINE OIL also covered.

Fire Premium for 1875 .....£742,553
" 1880 .....£833,078
" 1885 .....£966,107
" 1891 .....£1,607,030

NATIVE LIVES ASSURED AT EUROPEAN RATES.

LARGE REDUCTION IN RATES.

POLICIES granted by the Undersigned without reference to head Office on APPROVED LIVES. MILITARY LIVES in CIVIL EMPLOY have extra Premium returned.
ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES payable at Fixed Periods on Adults and Children on very Favourable Terms.
LAST REVERSIONARY BONUS 7½ Per Cent.
REDUCTION to EUROPEAN RATES when Assured leave either Alexandria or Port Said.

ACCUMULATED LIFE AND ANNUITY FUNDS now amount to £4,546,577
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS... £7,894,357

GROWTH OF FUNDS.

1881 .....£4,573,399 | 1891 .....£7,894,357
1886 .....£5,672,041
Increase of Funds in 10 years £3,321,058

THOMAS H. MOORE & Co.,
Agents, Royal Insurance Company,
Hamam Street.

BANKS.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....£1,125,000

HEAD OFFICE :
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BRANCHES :
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, COLOMBO, KANDY, GALLE, PENANG, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, HONGKONG, & SHANGHAI.

THE BANK receives FIXED DEPOSITS for one year at 4½ per cent. Interest, and CURRENT DEPOSITS on TERMS which may be learned on Application.
Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

R. KENNEDY,
Manager.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D' ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

PARIS, 14, Rue Bergere.
LONDON, 52, Threadneedle St., E.C.
CAPITAL Fcs. 75,000,000 (£3,000,000).
BRANCHES :—Lyons, Marseilles, Bordeaux, Havre, Nantes, Bombay, Calcutta, Shanghai, Hongkong, Melbourne, Sydney, San Francisco, Chicago, Tamatave, and Tananarive.

LONDON BANKERS :—
BANK OF ENGLAND,
UNION BANK OF LONDON.

Current Accounts are kept and interest allowed at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances above Rs. 5,000.
Deposit Accounts are opened for fix Periods at rates to be obtained on application.
Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the Chief Commercial Towns of the World.
Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper and other Stocks cashed for Customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank.

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COMMERCIAL AND LAND MORTGAGE BANK (LIMITED.)

ESTABLISHED AT MADRAS A.D. 1885.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, RUPEES TEN LAKHS.
CAPITAL CALLED UP.....Rs. 6,30,000
CAPITAL IN RESERVE .....Rs. 3,70,000
ACCUMULATED RESERVES.....Rs. 6,26,978

BRANCHES :
BOMBAY AND RAWAL-PINDEE.
BANKERS and AGENTS throughout INDIA, BURMA CEYLON and in LONDON, EDINBURGH, DUBLIN.
FIXED DEPOSITS—12 months 5 per cent. per annum.
PRUDENTIAL FUND—8½ p.a. compounded half yearly.
STERLING DEPOSITS—4 ½ p.a. on monies awaiting remittal.
CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle and CHEQUES on BOMBAY, CALCUTTA or MADRAS received at par for Deposit Accounts.
RECEIPTS issued when desired to EITHER or SURVIVOR.
FLOATING ACCOUNTS—2 ½ p.a. on balances over Rs. 250 and not exceeding Rs. 10,000.
PROMISSORY NOTES and BILLS discounted and
CASH CREDITS & LOANS granted upon IMMOVEABLE, MOVEABLE, and PERSONAL PROPERTY possessing a Market value.
DRAFTS issued and WIRE TRANSFERS effected.
GOVERNMENT PAPER—SHARES, bought and sold.
PAY, PENSIONS, INTERESTS, DIVIDENDS collected.
FIRE and LIFE INSURANCES arranged.
SECURITIES received for SAFE-KEEPING, liability accepted.
BANKING and MONEY AGENCY of every description conducted.
Full information and Rules furnished on application.
(By order of the Board)
P. A. CHURCHWARD,
Offg. Manager.
Bombay, May 20, 1893.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF PERSIA.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1889.)

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP.....£1,000,000
(With power to increase) to £4,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS £100,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £1,000,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS :—
WM. KESWICK, Esq., Chairman, (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.)
H. COKE, Esq., (Messrs. David Sassoon & Co.)
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SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN, K.C.S.I.
LIEUT.-GEN. THOMAS E. GORDON, C.B., C.S.I.
A. P.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Music at the Yacht Club, 6 p.m.

VESSELS ARRIVED.—The following vessel sailed on the 6th :—Hydaspes (s), from Brindisi. Yesterday :—Java (s), from Zanzibar; and Formosa (s), London.

VESSELS SAILED.—The steamer Karagola sailed yesterday for Karachi.

POLO.—There will be a game of Polo to-day, at 5-15 p.m.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The s. s. Mahanady entered the Dock on Sunday.

VICTORIA DOCK.—The s. s. Formosa entered the Dock yesterday and the s. s. Safari left on Sunday.

DEPARTURE.—Kumar Shri Ramsinhji of Rajpipla Nandod who put up in the Apollo Hotel, left Bombay by to-day's mail from Church Gate Station.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for China and Australia per s. s. "Rosetta" will be closed at the General Post Office at 6 a. m., on Thursday the 10th Instant.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Karachi and Sind per extra s s. "La Syne" will be closed at the General Post Office at 1 P.M., on Wednesday the 9th instant.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Singapore and Hongkong direct per extra s.s. "Barnida" will be closed at the General Post Office at 4 P.M. on Tuesday the 8th instant.

POSTAL NOTICE.—A mail for Europe consisting of letters and packets specially marked for transmission per Austrian Lloyd's s. s. "Vindobona" will be made up at the Bombay General Post Office for despatch to the Trieste Post Office at 6 a. m. on Wednesday the 9th instant.

RUN OVER BY A VICTORIA.—Cammill Pascol a Portuguese, was on Sunday noon, removed to the J. J. Hospital, suffering from an internal injury, caused by his having been accidentally knocked down, and run over by a hack-victoria, while going along Lohar Chawl Street.

THEFT AT ARTHUR ROAD.—Luximan Bhagaji, a *mallee*, residing at Arthur Road, reports to the police that sometime during the night of the 4th instant, while he was asleep, some one entered his room, by making a hole in the wall and stole from a box, cash, silver goods, &c., of the collective value of Rs. 79-8.

ACCIDENT ON BOARD A SHIP.—Sowlia Appa, a labourer, employed on board the s. s. "Gwalior," was at about 9 a.m. on Sunday last, loitering about on the ship when he accidently overbalanced himself, and fell into a hold of the main hatch, a depth of about twenty-five feet, sustaining a fracture of the left leg, and a shock to the system. He was removed to the J. J. Hospital.

BURGLARY AT PYDHOWNEE.—Jafferbhoy Chotabhoy, keeping an embroidery shop at Pydhownee, has made a report to the police, that at about 6 p.m. on the 4th inst. he locked the door of his shop and went to his house at Nezampoora. On the following morning when he opened the shop, he found the lock on the door intact but on going in he found a box open and embroidery and cash of the collective value of Rs. 125 stolen therefrom.

MUSIC AT THE YACHT CLUB.—The following programme will be played at the Yacht Club by the Band of the 5th Bombay Light Infantry on Tuesday next the 8th instant, at 6 p. m., (weather permitting):—

Quadrille	La Mascotte	O. Metra.
Overture	The king's Lieutenant	Emil Till.
Polka	The Colonel	Herve.
Fantasia	Hibernian Bouquet	Kappey.
Waltz	Fiorine	Retford.
Polonaise	In Blantschmuch	Merzdorf.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

FOUND DROWNED.—A dead body of a Hindoo of about thirty-five years of age, was found floating on the surface of the water, in a well at Gowalia Tank Road, on Sunday last. Information was immediately given to the police and the body was taken out of the well. It was then dressed in a *bundee* and *dhotur*, and except a small wound on the left eye-brow, apparently caused by fish, there were no marks of violence on it. Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquest on the body, yesterday, when the jury returned an open verdict.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.—The game to-day will be, Mr. Carter's side (Colours) against Mr. Troup's side (Whites) The following gentlemen will play. (Colours). T. Reed, F. Waller, Smallwood, John, Carter, Babington, Tulloch, Willoch, Dowley, Ewbank, Clark, Booth, Fido, Peters, Sell, Kirkbride, Myatt, Percy Honner, and Maidment, (whites). Cave, Boileau, Kelly, Hickman, Gibson, Whiddett Troup, Hammand, Greaves, Buchanan, White, Roberts, Illsley, Aldridge, Good, Grimstone, Bladwell, Owen, Brewin and Spencer.

THE VELIBAI CHARITABLE DISPENSARY.—At this Dispensary established in Punchvati Nasik 2129 patients were treated in the month of July last. Amongst them 1751 were Hindoos, 376 Mahomedans and 2 Christians. Of the Hindoos who where treated at the abovementioned Dispensary, 293 were from Punchvati, 939 from Nasik and 469 from adjacent villages, of the Mahomedans; 332 from Nasik and 44 from other villages; and of the Christians 1 from Nasik only and 1 from other villages. 20 Minor cases of Surgical operations and of extracting teeth were performed at the Dispensary during the month.

THE RECENT BEREAVEMENT IN THE PARSEE BARONET'S FAMILY.—Shums-ul-Ulma Dustoor Peshotumji Behramjee Sunjana, high priest of the Parsis of Bombay, has addressed a letter to Sir Dinshaw Manekjee Petit, Bart., one of the Trustees of the Parsi Punchayet Funds, requesting him to convene a public meeting of the Parsee community for the purpose of voting a letter of condolence to Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Bart., and family, for the recent sad bereavement caused by the untimely death of his only son, Mr. Cursetjee. A near day will be fixed by Sir Dinshaw for the purpose.

THE BOMBAY UNIVERSITY UNION.—A meeting of the managing committee of this Association was held on Saturday. Dr. P. P. Vaidya, L. M. & S. being in the chair. It was there resolved to send a letter to the Syndicate asking them not to take the enhanced fees this year, at least in the different University examinations, as the Government grant to the University has been the same this year namely Rs. 10,000 as it was last year. It was further resolved that those Fellows of the University who are in favour of the several resolutions passed by this Union should be requested to take such measures as will give them practical effect. Certain other items of business being transacted, the meeting dissolved with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE RECENT RIOTS AT PRABHAS PATTAN.—A public meeting of Mahratta Hindoos was held on Sunday afternoon at the temple of Thakordwar to pass resolutions in connection with the recent riots at Prabhas Pattan. There were about a thousand Mahrattas present on the occasion. Mahamaha Upadia Bhimacharia Julkikar was called to the chair. The chairman as well as the speakers who followed him expressed their regret for what had happened to their co-religionists at Prabhas Pattan at the hands of the Mahomedans on the day when the *Taboots* were immersed. Resolutions were then passed expressing their deep feeling of sorrow at the sad occurrence, in connection with which several Hindoos had been killed and their temples desecrated, and hoping that the authorities at Jemaghad would see that no such occurrence took place in the future. The meeting supported and sympathised with the steps taken by the meeting convened by Mr. Vurjeevandas Madhavdas at Mahadev Baug. It was also agreed to forward copies of resolutions passed at the meeting to Mr. Vurjeevundas, the chairmain of the meeting at Mahadev Baug. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

THEFT BY SERVANTS.—At the G'rgaum Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Briscoe, charged Gunpat Babaji, aged fourteen years, and Gunoo Sakaram aged twenty years, before Mr. Moroji, Acting Fourth Presidency Magistrate, with stealing silver ornaments and a brass lamp of the collective value of Rs. 16, belonging to Gunesh Dhondset, a goldsmith, residing at Girgaum and keeping his shop at Gaiwady. Both the accused were employed in the service of the complainant for some time. About twelve days ago the complainant missed a brass lamp from his shop. He reported the matter to the police but the lamp was not traced to any one. On the evening of Friday last, the complainant put some silver ornaments in a wooden box, locked it up and went home; but on the following morning when he opened the box, he found the property missing. The complainant rested his suspicion on the accused, who were present in the shop when he placed the ornaments in the box. Information was given to the police and the accused were arrested. The lamp was traced to a marwaree, with whom it was pledged by the accused and the rest of the property was found buried under a tree at Queens Road. Both the accused pleaded guilty to the charge. Taking into consideration the age of the first accused, the Magistrate ordered him to be sent to the Reformatory for a period of six months, while he sentenced the second accused to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

HIGH COURT.—ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice PARSONS.)

CONSTRUCTION OF A PARSEE'S WILL.

BAPUJEE NUSSERWANJEE VACHAGANDY AND ANOTHER VS. DINBAI AND OTHERS.

THE plaintiff prayed that the will of Ardasir Manockjee Vachagandy may be construed by the Court, and the trusts created thereby may be declared, and that the plaintiffs powers and duties thereunder may be ascertained and declared, &c. Mr. Macpherson and Mr. Inverarity, instructed by Mr. Shamrao Pandurang, appeared for the plaintiffs, The Hon. Mr. Lang and Mr. Scott, instructed by Mr. K. D. Shroff, appeared for the first and second defendants; and Mr. Macpherson and Mr. Inverarity, instructed by Messrs. Balkrishna and Peroshaw, appeared for the fifth and sixth defendants.

It appeared that Ardasir Manockjee Vachagandy died on the 11th May 1892, leaving the first defendant, his widow, and the second defendant, his son, his last will dated on the day of his death, of which the plaintiffs are the executors, was proved on the 23rd July 1892. The other defendants are the nephews of the testator mentioned in the will. By the the third clause of the will, the testator directed:—"I give and devise the residue of my estate, both moveable and immoveable, unto my said executors upon trust, that they shall apply the income thereof towards the maintenance and education of my son Sorabjee during his infancy, and towards the maintenance of my wife during her life-time, so long as she may continue to be my widow, and hand over the said estate to my son on his arriving at his age of majority, and I appoint my said executors guardians of my said son. I direct that in case of my son's death without issue my said executors shall hand over my said estate to my nephews, the sons of my said sister Meherbai, in equal shares and absolutely. I also direct that in case of the death of my said son during the life-time of my wife, my said executors shall pay to her a sum of Rs. 200 for her maintenance so long as she may continue to be my widow." Doubts had arisen as to the true construction of the will on the following points: 1. Whether the plaintiffs as trustees, are entitled to apply the whole income of the residue towards the maintenance of the second defendant during his infancy and the maintenance of the first defendant during her widowhood, and whether the proportionate amount to be allowed for the maintenance of each is in the discretion of the trustees, or whether the income should be applied in equal proportions? 2. Whether the gift to the testator's nephews takes effect on the death of the son without issue, or at any time, or only in the event of his dying without issue before majority? 3. Whether the direction to hand over the estate to the son on his attaining his majority is not inconsistent with the other trusts created by the said clause, and whether the trustees, having regard to the other trusts created by the will, are justified in handing over the whole residuary estate to the son on his attaining majority? 4 Whether the Rs. 200 directed to be paid to the first defendant for her maintenance during her widowhood, in case the second defendant dies during the life-time of the first defendant, is a single sum of Rs 200 or an annual or monthly sum of Rs 200? 5 How the performance and due execution of the trust to pay the Rs 200 in the event aforesaid to the first defendant is to be secured if the whole property is to be handed over to the second defendant? 6. How in the event of it being determined, the gift over to the testator's nephews takes effect on the death of the second defendent without issue at any time, the trusts in that behalf are to performed or secured and generally the plaintiffs submitted to the Court the true construction of the will.

For the first and second defendants, it was submitted that, on the true construction of the will, the second defendant, if alive on the 22nd March 1893, when he attains his majority, is entitled to the residue of the estate, subject only to the first defendants's rights of maintenance, and that the gift over to the testator's nephews cannot take effect save in the event of the second defendant dying before that date without issue, and that the second defendant is entitled to have the residuary estate handed over to him on his attaining his majority.

Cowasjee Nusserwanjee and Jamsetjee Nusserwanjee, the fifth and sixth defendants, submitted themselves upon all the questions to the Court's judgment, desiring only that the Court shall decide whether, according to the true construction of the will, the gift over to these defendants and the third and fourth defendants take effect upon the death at any time of the second defendant without issue, or only in the event of his dying without issue before attaining majority. The direction to hand over the estate to the second defendant on his arriving at his age of majority was, it was submitted, inconsistent with the other trusts thereby created; and that the trustees should, notwithstanding the last-mentioned direction, be ordered to retain possession of the residuary estate so long as the second defendant shall live. It was further submitted that after the decease of the second defendant without issue, the other defendants were entitled absolutely to the testators residuary estate, subject to the payment directed to be made to the first defendant, and that such payment may, if necessary, be duly secured by order of the Court.

By an order of the judge, in chambers, the defendant Dinbai was in June last discharged from the suit as the guardian *ad litem* of the second defendant, who had attained his majority.

His lordship, in disposing of the suit, directed that the executors might hand over the residue of the estate to the second defendant after making provision for the widow's maintenance, and the payment of Rs. 200 per month to her in the event of the second defendant predeceasing her; and if the first defendant releases the executors, then the executors are to be at liberty to hand over the estate without making any such provision. His lordship held that the bequest to third, fourth, fifth and sixth defendants could not take effect, under section 111 of the Indian Succession Act, the son having attained his majority. Costs of all the parties were to come out of the estate.

H. H. MAHARAJA HOLKAR AT POONA.

On Wednesday the 2nd instant His Highness Maharaja Holkar paid a visit to H. E. the Governor. An escort of sowars was sent to His Highness' residence, and the under Secretary, Political Department, and an European A. D. C. were to have gone there to escort him, but on account of Mr. Hill's unexpected illness he could not do so. Lord Harris therefore sent an apology to His Highness the Maharaja, through Captain Mayne, who accepted it and accompanied by Captain Mayne and the A. D. C. started for Ganesh Khind followed by the mounted escort and by his Sardars,—Raibahadur Nanekchand, Deputy Minister, Chief Justice Dhurandhar, Rao saheb B. A. Gupte and Sardar. They were met at the porch by Mr. Whitworth, Political Secretary, who conducted them by the Durbar Hall where H. E. the Governor came forward and received them. There were present besides the Political Secretary, the under Secretary, the Private Secretary, the Military Secretary, the Oriental Translator and 2 A. D. C's. After some pleasant conversation in which Lord Harris referred to Mr. Bedarkar, *pan attar, gulab*, and flowers were distributed. Salutes were fired in honour of the distinguished visitor on arrival and departure. On Thursday H. E. the Governor paid the customary return visit to His Highness the Maharaja, at his residence in Civil Lines. The Deputy Minister and Raosahib B. A. Gupte were deputed to Ganesh Khind to escort H. E. who started at 4-30 p.m. with these sardars, taking with him the Military Secretary and an A. D. C. and was received by His Highness in full Durbar consisting of Captain Mayne, the four sardars named above, and two mankaris. After the usual *attar* and *pan*, His Excellency the Governor left amid cheers and military honours and was again accompanied by Rai Nanakchand and Raosahib B. A. Gupte to Government House. The usual salutes were fired on arrival and departure. The Political Secretary, Military, Private Secretary, two A. D. C.'s and the Oriental Translator to Government were also present at the reception Durbar.

A marriage has been arranged between Col Wauchope, B.C., C.M.G., and Miss Muir, daughter of Sir W. Muir, K.C.S.I.

A marriage will take place shortly between Mr. W. H. N. Goschen, eldest son of Mr. H. Goschen, of Addington, Surrey, and Christian, second daughter of the late Col. T. A. Grant, C.B., C.S.I., and Mrs. Grant, of Househill, Nairn, and 19, Upper Grosvenor-street.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a Chemist and get a Bottle of Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for Dysentery and Diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d. per Bottle.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A CONFIRMATION of the general view of the destination of stolen rifles from India was recently afforded by the recovery on the frontier of a Snider carbine which had been stolen from the Central India Horse, from a Toja Khel Waziri.

THE *Sind Gazette* learns that Mr. Clements, of Hyderabad, has filed an application for leave to file a specification of a telegraphic invention by which hand-signalling is abandoned, and both signalling and receiving of messages is worked automatically, irrespective of distance and time. Mr. Clements claims to have solved the difficulty of leakage at the telegraph poles. He has been in communication with the Government of India, which has called for drawings and descriptions, and he has now furnished them.

THE following Officers are mentioned by General Palmer for good service rendered in connection with the Chin Hill Expedition:—Major Greenfield, Chief Staff Officer; Lieutenant Parr, Orderly Officer; Captain Watson, Chief Commissariat Officer, Myingyan District; Captain Baker, Norfolk Regiment, Intelligence Officer; Lieutenant Marshall, R.A.; Captain Presgrave, 1st Burma Rifles; Captain Caulfield and Lieutenant Henegan, 10th Madras Infantry; Major Baugh; Lieutenant Hendley, 21st Madras Pioneers; Captain Taylor, 5th Burma Battalion; Captain Keary, Burma Battalion; Lieutenants Wardell, Garhwal Rifles, Sanders, Madras Sappers; Daly, 4th Burma Battalion; Camilleri, 13th Bengal Infantry, in charge of the Camel Corps; Surgeon-Major Lucas, and Veterinary-Lieutenant Eassie. General Palmer also acknowledges, in the warmest terms, the services of Messrs. Carey, Tuck and Fowler, Political Officers. He recommends Subadar Pirthi Chand, Garhwal Rifles, for the Order of British India, and mentions Sergeant Walsh, Overseer, P. W. D., as deserving of departmental promotion.

THE *Madras Mail* says:—We are afraid that there can be little doubt that the two gentlemen who, Reuter tells us, have lost their lives when out boating as Boscastle, a small seaport in the north of Cornwall, were both well-known in this Presidency. Mr. Mellish was for several years a solicitor at Calicut and a popular member of society in that station. He left India some three or four years ago and since then has been practising in Cornwall. Always most hospitably inclined, Mr. Mellish whenever he heard that any of his old Anglo-Indian friends were at home, invariably asked them down for boating and sea-fishing. This inclines us to the belief that the Mr. Ansted referred to must be the popular Doctor of the Madras Railway, who by the way is under orders for Trivandrum to take the medical charge of the Nair Brigade, and was expected out in the Clyde leaving England on the 3rd proximo. He was, we know, a friend of Mr. Mellish, and the latest accounts from him said that he was going down to Gloucestershire and Herefordshire in July on a round of visits to friends. We sincerely trust that time may prove that our fears are incorrect as this Presidency could ill-afford to lose such a good fellow and genuine sportsman as Mr. Ansted. We should not, however, have given them publication unless they had received some corroboration.

WE see it asserted in one of the Home papers, writes the *Pioneer*, that the state of the silver market offers an opportunity for the illicit coining of rupees for shipment to India. As a prelude to this Maria Theresa dollars are being coined in Vienna and sent out to Egypt, Aden, and the western littoral of the Red Sea. There Indian rupees are to be purchased and shipped to Bombay, where nominally fifteen rupees represent a sovereign. A handsome return is expected on the transaction, and the speculators are expected to make a bolder venture presently by actually coining the rupees and transmitting them to this country. It is an ingenious plan, but it does not follow that it will be successful. To begin with, there can only be a limited number of Indian rupees current in Africa and Arabia, and the legitimate purchase of them through the medium of the Maria Theresa dollar must soon come to an end. The shipment of illicitly coined rupees will be an operation full of risk. It could not be attempted to any of the chief ports without the Customs authorities becoming aware of the fraud; and though there are small seaport towns where a ship could run in and land its silver cargo, the difficulties of transport inland are so great that the police would probably soon be on the track of the smugglers. There is one way in which the law might be evaded. Rupees might be sent secretly from Europe to some of the Red Sea ports and thence reshipped to India, under pretence of having been collected in Arabia, the Soudan, Abyssinia, &c. But this would require a very elaborate organisation, for the coiners would have to use ships of their own, or bribe the owners of ordinary trading vessels. If a sharp look-out be kept at Indian ports there need not be much fear of false rupees being sent out in such numbers as would cause a heavy loss to the Government.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, the Chief Commissioner of Burmah has utilised his sojourn at home to become engaged to a very charming young lady, Miss Mabel Elliot a daughter, of Mr. G. W. Elliot, M.P.

COLONEL T. B. TYLER, R.A., writes the *Broad Arrow*, has been appointed to the command of the arrillery in the Poona circle, to fill the vacancy which will shortly be caused when Colonel Rawlin's appointment expires. Colonel Tyler's great experience at Okehampton and knowledge of field artillery work in general, will be especially valuable to the Indian Government at the present moment, and make his selection as good a one from a professional as it is likely to be regarded from a social, standpoint.

CAPTAIN E. O. F. HAMILTON, Royal West Surrey Regiment, Inspector of Army Signalling in India, obtains his majority in consequence of the recent promotion of Major H. W. Trench to a half-pay lieutenant-colonelcy.

THE world, says Mr. J. A. Froude in *Longman's*, "has changed since Jean Paul's days. The wings of France has been clipped; the German Empire bas become a solid thing; but England still holds her watery dominion; Britannia does still rule the waves, and in this proud position rhe has spread the English race over the globe; she has created the great American nation; she is peopling new Englands at the Antipodes; she has made her Queen Empress of India; and is, in fact, she very considerable phenomenon in the social and political world which all acknowledge her to be. And all this she has achieved in the course of three centuries, entirely in consequence of her predominence as an ocean power. Take away her merchant fleets; take away the navy that guards them—her empire will come to an end; her Colonies will fall off, like leaves from a withered tree; and Britain will become once more an insignificant island in the North Sea, for the future students in Australian and New Zealand Universities to discuss the fate of in their debating societies."

A GENERAL hope has been expressed in Service circles (says *Truth*) that the Queen will give a set of apartments in Hampton Court Palace to Lady Hudson (the widow of that very distinguished soldier, Sir John Hudson) who is daughter of the late Gen. Havelock. Lady Hudson is left in very poor circumstances, with several daughters to support. Only a few weeks before Sir John's sad death, he was put to great expense on taking up his appointment as Commander-in-Chief at Bombay.

THE Gaekwar of Baroda has left London on a trip to the Norwegian fjords.

PRINCE RABI, son of the King of Siam, and his cousin, Prince Chira, occupied seats in the Diplomatic Gallery, whilst Sir Edward Grey made his statement in the House of Commons, on July 17, upon the critical condition of affairs in Siam.

A marriage will shortly take place between Alexander, only son of the late Mr. H. D. Robertson, B.C.S., of Woolongoon, Australia, and Hilda, third daughter of the late Mr. Clement Upton Cottrell-Dormer, of Rousham, Oxfordshire, and Ingmire Hall, Yorkshire.

CHARGE OF FORGING BILLS OF LADING.

AT the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Mr. Cooper, Chief Presidency Magistrate, resumed the hearing of the case in which Messrs. Mackinon Mackenzie and Co., Bombay Agents of the British India Steam Navigation Co., charged Ronja Purmanand, a servant to Walji Dhuramsey, with forging the initials of Mr. Phipps, an assistant in the B. I. S. N. Co's Office, and two freight clerks, named Framji and Gunpat Purshotam, and enter them on nine bills of lading relating to cargoes of about 1,400 packages shipped for Porebunder, Mangalore and Verawal, by the steamers Karagola, Kapurthalla, and Java.

Mr. Owen, of the firm of Messrs. Craigie, Lynch and Owen, appeared for the prosecution. Mr. Nicholson, of the firm of Messrs. Little, Smith Nicholson and Bowen defended the accused. The facts of the case have already been reported. On the last occasion Mr. Atmaram Narayan, a cashier, in the firm of Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie, and two others were examined by Mr. Owen. The following evidence was recorded yesterday.

Chotalal Premji was re-called and further examined by Mr. Owen. He said that the landing charges for the goods shipped for the above ports were paid in Bombay. The bills of lading were received before the delivery of goods. The nine bills of lading in question were given to him by the accused. The six bills of lading for Kapurthulla and Karagola were given to him at his place. The three bills of lading for goods shipped for Java were given to the witness subsequently at the Office of the British India Steam Navigation Company. He had made entries about the bills in his book and they were endorsed by the accused in his presence at the time he handed over the bills to the witness. In accordance with the communication from Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co., he handed over the three bills of lading for goods shipped for Java to Fernandes, a clerk. Subsequently he received further instructions from Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie, in consequence of which he handed over the file of all the bills of lading to their clerk, Furdoonji; That file contained the bills of lading for Kapurthalla and Karagola. Since the time he received the bills of lading from the accused, they remained in his possession until he delivered them to Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie and Co. Accused was in the habit of bringing bills of lading for Walji Dhuramsey. The landing charges were paid by the accused in Bombay. He received the bills of lading ten or fifteen days after the steamer had left Bombay. He sometimes took the accused to task for delivering him the bills of lading very late.

Cross-examined by Mr. Nicholson, witness said that it was not the custom of the accused to hand over the bills of lading when he paid the landing charges. They generally put the consignee's name on the counterfoil. The consignee's names did not appear on the bills of lading. He knew Mr. Phipps well, but he was not well acquainted with his handwriting. Mr. Phipps put his signatures on all the bills of lading he received for Verawal, Mangalore and Porebunder. The file for the season contained about a hundred bills of lading for the three ports. They were all signed by Mr. Phipps. There was no entry in his books that would show the day on which he received the nine bills. Walji Dhuramsey shipped further goods to those ports on the 6th and 16th of May by the s. s. Pachumba. The bills of lading in respect to the goods were at the witness' office. It was not true that he put his initials to the two entries on the same day. He made the initials at the time he received the bills of lading. The number of packages were entered on the day he gave a receipt for landing charges. The consignees at those ports found no difficulty in getting the goods without the bills of lading, as the agents delivered the goods on guarrantee or deposit of the amount of freight. The agents at the ports landed the goods and gave their signatures to the steamers' captains. Their agents required guarrantee or deposits from the persons, who claimed the goods. He did not give notice to the agents that the landing charges were paid. When he received the bills of lading he informed his agents accordingly. He did not keep any press copy of any communications made to the agents, who must have kept the letters referring to the nine bills in question. He was not asked to produce the letters. The name of his agent at Verawal was Karamchand Vanmali. Liladhar Premji was their agent at Mangalore and Vasaurav Kassidas at Porebunder. He attended the Office of the British India Steam Navigation Company everyday. He did not assist those consignors who shipped their goods to the above ports. There was no necessity of his paying the slightest attention to those consignors. He did not assist the accused in getting his bills of lading made out. At the British India Office he attended the landing charges, receipt matters and wrote any letters that he had to write about trading business. He carried on business himself on a small scale. He sat with the office brokers there, as they were his friends. He did not know if the office brokers sold those bills of lading. He did a little business in shares and Government papers. He could not say in whose handwriting the bills were filled in. He knew the accused's handwriting. The bills were not filled in the accused's handwriting. He had no one to assist him in his business in Bombay. He saw the counterfoil No. 794 in the exhibit Z. The initials on it were made by his cousin, Vuchalal. He did not do any work except writing the receipts for the landing charges. The bill of lading was not filled in by his cousin. None of the bills of lading were filled in his handwriting. The accused or Chaturbhooj Devji used to assist the accused in his writing work. He knew the accused for the last fifteen months. He had to deal with him everyday. He found him strictly honest in all his transactions with the witness. He put full trust in him.

Re-examined by Mr. Owen, witness said that he had nothing to do with the accused except with regard to the shipments in the name of Walji Dharamsey. After Ramrao and Vachalal filled in the receipts they were not brought to the witness because all the receipts were stamped. Sometimes Vachalal filled in the receipts for the landing charges and witness checked it and then gave a receipt to the accused. Whenever the receipts of landing charges were made out by other persons, he took steps to see that it was properly filled in. He did not make entries in any books of the dates on which he received the bills of lading. He was told that the nine bills of lading were signed by Mr. Phipps. He did not see Mr. Phipps' signing them nor did Mr. Phipps say to him that he had signed the bills of lading. He said that it was Mr. Phipps' signature because he believed so and also because he had full confidence in the accused.

Further cross-examinaed by Mr. Nicholson, witness said that he intialled the receipts prepared by Ramrao to show that the moneys were received. He had intialled the entries from 751 to 780. Some of the receipts were made out by him and he had initialled them irrespective of the persons, who had prepared them.

Jugonath Luxman examined by Mr. Owen, said that he was a clerk of the outward freight department in Messrs. Mackinon Mackenzie and Co., and his duties were to check the bills of lading that came to him with cargo receipts, which were signed by the chief officer. He had written the amount of freight on the nine bills of lading and twice initialled them. They passed through his hands in the usual course of business. After writing the amount of freights he passed the bills to his assistant Fernandez. He also intialled the mate's or the cargo receipt. He knew the accused, who often came to their office. Witness had seen the accused several times within the railed space, where he and Fernandez sat. The accused often used to bring sets of bills of lading for more than one steamer at one time. The witness and a clerk told the accused on more than one occasion that he should not collect all those bills of lading and bring them at one time.

Cross-examined by Mr. Nicholson, witness said that Mr. Phipps sat in the same room as he did. He did not call Mr. Phipps' attention to the fact that the accused came inside the rails because he thought that Mr. Phipps must know it. Several other shippers also used to come in. He did not mean to say that Mr. Phipps permitted it, but there was actually no forbidding. There was no objection to the bills of lading of different steamers being brought at one time except that it kept the account open for a long time. There was nothing wrong to bring the bills of lading in this way. Fernandez and he were never absent from their tables at one time. He and Fernandez sat together. There were other clerks also within the enclosures. They did not rise together for their tiffin. He did not know in whose hand-writing the nine bills of lading were filled in. Chotalal Premji sat below in the office. He sometimes came upstairs to receive his landing charges. The nine bills of lading were not entered in the manifest book. Before he joined this department, some clerks had been dismissed on account of an alteration in certain figures in the bills of lading, of which he had no particular.

D. L. Fernandez, a manifest clerk in the employ of Messrs. Mackinon Mackenzie and Company, examined by Mr. Owen, said that it was one of his duties to write out the manifest book of the voyages of the steamers bound for Kattyawar coast. He made entries in the manifest books from the bills of lading, which he received from Juggonnath Luxman. The nine bills of lading, which were the subject matter of the case, were not received by him at the time he wrote the three manifest books. None of the cargo mentioned in the bills of lading was entered in the manifest books. He first saw three bills of Java in the office. They were brought to him by Chotalal Premji on the 11th of July last. He took them to Mr. Phipps. He saw the other six bills of lading the next day in the hands of Mr. Phipps. He had not before seen them. He knew the accused, who frequently used to come to the office to pay the freight on bills of lading for Walji Dharamsey.

Cross-examined by Mr. Nicholson, witness said that when he went for tiffin, nobody was in charge of his desk. He left his things lying about. He considered everything left on his desk safe. He did not know a case of any documents being missed from his desk. After entering the bills of lading in the manifest books he gave them to a clerk, Ramlal. If Jagganath told him to return the bills of lading before they had been entered in the books he would not obey his order. He doubted the bills of lading for Java because the signature of Mr. Phipps appeared to have been written with "a shivering hand."

Purshotam Gunpatrao Jeykar, a cash-writer in the employ of Messrs. Mackinon, Mackenzie and Co., in his examination by Mr. Owen, stated that after the money had been paid to Shroff, he (Shroff) gave him a document, the particulars of which he entered in the cash-book and afterwards handed over the document to his Saheb. He initialled the bills of lading after the cash-sheet had been made not. The nine bills of lading did not bear his initials. He made his signature in the way in which the marks on the bills of lading were caused. There was no entry in his books about the goods mentioned in the bills of lading.

In his cross-examination by Mr. Nicholson, witness said that he knew the details of the, freight department. He could not say who had written the names of the party at the top of the bills of lading. He could not say if they were in the handwriting of a clerk of their office. A shroff was dismissed four or five years ago on account of some defalcations.

At this stage the case was adjourned until Wednesday, the 16th instant.

THE IDEA AND AIM OF POETRY.

ON Saturday last, under the auspices of the Wilson College Literary Society, the Rev. R. Scott, M. A., delivered a lecture on "The idea and aim of Poetry." The Hon'ble Mr. McDonnel presided. The lecturer, in the first part of his lecture, referred to the difficulty of defining the peculiar quality of the mind which constituted poetry. Poetry was various, adapting itself to all races and ages or stages of civilisation. Yet it had a unity of character, since its birthplace was the soul of man, and it arose from the contact of the soul with the upper and external world, or with the inner experiences of the present or the past. It was shown both by individual lives and national history that there were periods favourable to the nonse, epochs enthusiasm, of expansiveness and power, of fresh ideas and generous hopes. The lecturer then discussed in detail several aspects of the subject. First, the poets' materials. These were classified as the divine life and government, external nature, human action and inner thought or feeling; but of the second and third of these chiefly arose the major division of poetry, which was called representative, while the other division was called expressive. Next followed a lengthened analysis of the poetic faculty of imagination. The basis of this power consisted in Taste and Sensibility or an instinctive appreciation (on the intellectual and emotional sides respectively) of Beauty and Harmony. Higher were the more developed powers of judgment and invention—the latter term including, combining and assimilating powers, and producing what was called originality. Still higher, the lecturer placed ideality, which was the most distinctive feature of poetry and the central and dominating principle in the complex activity of imagination. The next section dealt with emotional and moral endowments. As it had grown late the lecturer merely indicated that the former consisted of such as hope, love, sympathy, joy and tranquility, the talker of such as sincerity and veracity ethical aim and right moral judgment and nobility of soul and life. Thereafter the lecturer proceeded to treat of the poet's method, discussing successively concreteness or individuality. Appeals to feelings and affections, imagery and language or the use of metrical speech. Having thus surveyed the art of the poet, the lecturer returned to the question of the idea of poetry: the answer given being that it was a sort of apothessis, involving a glorification of history, a transfiguration of nature, a spiritualising of thought, and a musical chant of speech. The last subject discussed was the aim of poetry. The lecturer having criticised the view that the aim was pleasure, and also that the true way was to inform in the right way of living, and having endeavoured to show that the aim must take cognizance of these things—thought, active feelings such as admiration and ethusiasm, and passive feelings of pure delight—concluded by stating his opinion that the end and aim of poetry was to awaken and to cherish in the soul the love of what was noble or beautiful in life. The lecturer was vociferously cheered as he resumed his seat.

The chairman remarked that the lecturer had judiciously avoided any attempt at defining poetry. He remembered when the lecturer and he were fellow-students a famous professor of the University of Aberdeen would have them believe that poetry was a fine art operating through language. But this no more than any other was a complete definition of poetry. He spoke in high terms of the lecture and expressed a hope that the lecturer would give it some permanent form. In conclusion, he proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was carried by acclamation. The Rev. Dr. Mackichan next rose to propose a vote of thanks to the chairman, whom, he said, the Society might fairly expect to include as one of their lecturers for the next year. The vote having been cordially accorded, Mr. S. C. Shahani, the Secretary, announced that the next lecture would be Mr. I. L. Robertson's and not the Archdeacan's, the latter having been postponed to the end of this month. This terminated the proceedings.

HIGH COURT.—AUGUST 8.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr Justice PARSONS.)

For judgment and further directions.

275-84—Little, S. N and B—Kunkoobai vs Panalal Poonumchand—Ardesir, H and D.

Suits for Hearing and Final Disposal.

Short Causes.

400-91—Bhaishunker and K—Sarabhai Mayanbhai and another vs The Universal Life Assurance Society.

239-93—Thakoredas D and C—Allarakhi Sewjee vs Cowasjee Nusserwanjee Billiarum.

247-93—Maganlal L Shroff—Vajasung Atlaji and others vs Allimahomed Rajibally and another—Brown and M.

251-93—Framjee and M—L A Watkins vs Khoomajee Vajanjee and another—Wadia and G.

232 93—Framjee and M—L A Watkins vs Fattaji Hansraj.

254-93—In person—Rampursad Sewchand and others vs Hajarimull Gungaram Rathi.

318-93—Matubai and J—Bai Jamna vs Dhunjee Dav Karam.

325-93—Payne G and S Musajee Valijee vs Abdoolally Nuruddin—Brown and M.

329-93—J C Cama—Abdool Cadur Esmailjee Motiwalla vs Mahomedbhoy Ameeroodin Chandbhoy.

334-93—T A Bland—Narsomall Talukchand vs Runchorlas Morojee Mansukhlal—D and J, and In person.

Defended New Long Causes.

260-93—Crawford, B and Co—The B B and C I Ry Company vs Ramgopall Foolchand and others—Postonjee R and K and P G and S.

Postponed Long Causes.

113-92—Brown and M—Tejpal Coarsey and others vs Bai Dhunbai and others—Wadia and G and L S W and B.

285-91—Tyabjee and D—Manockbai vs Thakersey Govindjee and others—Mansukhlal D and J.

15-93—Payne, G and S—Abdulla Khan bin Abdul Rehman vs Hajee Ebrahim Hajee Vyedina—Ardesir H and D.

1-93—E Wilkin—Kesowlal Sewram Udbyapaka vs Canjee Dewjee and another.

313-92—M H Khan—Sahadoo Jiwajee vs Luxmon Jiwajee Patel Wagle—Balkrishna and P.

68-93—In person (a pauper)—Sackoobai and others vs Sarswatibai—In person.

105-92—Thakurdas D and C—Assar Virjee vs Khatao Natha and others—Ed

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Packing and Postage extra.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 7.

Our report under Saturday evening's date having chronicled all the latest telegrams received through Reuter noticeable in this column, our news this evening is entirely of a local and provincial character.

MONEY.—The Bank of Bombay Return for the week ending on Saturday shows the following changes:—

Public Deposits at Head Office	Inc.	Rs.	18,962
" " Branches	Dec.	"	6,16,217
Other Deposits	Inc.	"	20,31,545
Government Securities	Dec.	"	5,70,775
Other authorized "	Nil	"	Nil
Loans	Dec.	"	7,60,817
Bills Discounted and purchased	Inc.	"	6,40,633
Balances with other Banks	Dec.	"	32,789
Cash	Inc.	"	20,96,246

The material decrease in Private Deposits with the Presidency Bank, and the sensible increase in Bills discounted which, at the close of the week before that now under notice, had caused the weekly figures to show some expansion in the trade demand for money, a considerable dimunition on Loans, notwithstanding, has been followed by a large addition to private Deposits, and an increase in the Bank's Cash Balance of nearly 21 lakhs, making the balance stand at 312¾ lakhs. This has been mainly due to the movement in the direction above referred to; but it has also been assisted by a further decrease of 7½ lakhs in Loans; and though we have again to note an increase in Bills Discounted, and that to a rather larger extent than in the week preceding, the net falling off in trade requirments is shown to have been some 19½ lakhs; some withdrawals of Public Deposits at the Bank's branches having been nearly counterbalanced by the realization of Government Securities.

COTTON business has been almost a blank here to-day, the only purchase reported being that of 100 bales of Wadwan by a Mill, at Rs. 196 per candy. The tone of the market has been quiet; but prices are unchanged.

Rather heavier and more general rain, according to the telegrams received from the district this morning, fell over the Cotton area after the middle of last week, ranging from 3½ inches at Broach where, however, the weather had since become bright, and favourable to the growing crop to 13 cents at Cawnpore. Speaking generally, the fall since last Thursday had been lighter in the Bengal and Dhollera circles, and heavier in the Broach and Oomrawattee circles; and, accordingly, in some districts of the two former circles—especially Dhollera—the plants required more rain; while in the two latter they were flourishing, looking about as well as they could do at Oomrawattee itself. At Barsee, in the Oomra circle, a larger area has been sown with Cotton this year.

WHEAT.—A moderate export business has been done to-day in this staple in a steady market; but without any change in quotations.

SEEDS have also been taken to a moderate extent by shippers, the tone of the market having been quiet. The price of Linseed has declined half-an-anna per cwt., say to Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 7-10-0 per cwt.; but other kinds are unchanged in value.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay on Saturday were as follows:—

Cotton	2,933	bales.
Wheat	3,672	cwts.
Linseed	1,799	"
Rapeseed	3,645	"
Castorseed	959	"
Rice	6,461	"

FREIGHTS are very quiet, nominally at last quotations, but no business worth mentioning has been done again to-day.

EXCHANGE.—We have had another very quiet day in this market also, the London markets being closed for the holiday. Rates opened steady at 1s. 3 11-16d. and 1s. 3 3-8d., as on Saturday, for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, respectively; and at 1s. 3 9-16d. for three months' sight Credits for the mail, and 1s. 3 19-32d. for August delivery. Later on, rates became 1s. 3 3-8d. and 1s. 3 13-32d. for the two media of Bank remittance, respectively, at which a little was taken; and we also heard of a few Credits for near delivery, being placed at our quotations, while for forward Credits, 1s. 3⅜d. for September-October, 1s. 3 21-32d. for November-December, and 1s. 3 11-16d. for January was named and for forward Telegraphic we quote 1s. 3 7-16 to 15-32d., but with no enquiry at these rates; and the market closed steady as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 3 13-32d. per rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 3 3-8d.
Do. 3 months' sight	1s. 3 15-32d.
Credits 3 do.	1s. 3 9-16 to 19-32d.
Francs 3 do.	1·64 to 1·64½

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—There has again been little movement in this market to-day, the feeling having been steady at 106 7-8 for fours for Money, and 106 11-16 for Account, with buyers on the latter line; and at closing 1-16 per cent. higher was quoted in both positions.

SHARES have remained quiet; but with rather more doing than on Saturday. In cotton Mill Scrip Bombay Cotton Manufacturing shares have advanced Rs. 5; and Southern Mahratta Rs. 2½; but City of Bombay are Rs. 10; Maneckji Petit Rs. 5; and Mazagon Rs. 2½ lower. Volkarts Press Shares have advanced Rs. 30; Munmar have declined Rs. 2½; Treacher and Co. are Rs. 5 higher. Bank of Bombay shares have farther advanced Rs. 3½ to Rs. 1,160; Bank of Bengal are Rs. 5 higher at Rs. 1,060.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

AUGUST 7.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz-Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St Vincent, perfect.
Telegraphic communication between Granada and Nicaragua interrupted.
Telegrams to Argentine Republic via Galveston are again accepted without any restriction.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

LATEST dates of foreign messages received at Bombay, from the United Kingdom, during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 7th August, 1893.

(Difference in longitude allowed for)

Via,	Latest Date. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	6	9	40 a.m.	21	52
Teheran	7	12	12 p.m.	...	20
Suez	7	3	0 p.m.	...	4

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay, during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., on 7th August, 1893.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	42	...	5
" Karrachee	...	18	...	1
" Madras	...	20	...	2

I. M. R. TRAFFIC RETURN.

(Week ending July 29, 1893.)

DESCRIPTION.	1893.	1892.	Inc. for the week.	Dec. for the week.	Aggregate Inc.	Aggregate Dec.
Miles Open	752	752	..	..	..	..
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers, Parcels, &c.	28,267	28,264	3	...	...	714
Goods	28,876	31,455	...	2,579	..	24,364
Other earnings	6,260	6,636	...	376	...	3,921
Weekly total.	63,403	66,355	..	2,952	...	..
Aggregate	2,57,646	2,86,675	...	...	..	29,029

THERMOMETER READINGS.

SUNDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 6.

10 p.m. ... 77·4

MONDAY, AUGUST 7.

6 a.m. ... 78·5
10 a.m. ... 79·4
2 p.m. ... 80·6
4 p.m. ... 78·4

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE OF NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

EUROPE.

BIRTHS.

GRACE—July 17, at Park House, Thornbury, Gloucestershire, the wife of Dr R M Grace, of a daughter.
STUART-PRINCE—July 12, at the Hill House, Warwick, the wife of Lieut C Stuart-Prince, 13th Madras Infantry, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BELL—PEPPER-STAVELEY—July 11, at St Margaret's, Ifield, Sussex, George Alfred James, eldest son of J W Bell, Esq. of Springcroft, Aigburth, Liverpool, to Zoe Winifred Augusta Townsend, third daughter of the late G A Pepper Staveley, B C S, of Woldhurstea, Crawley, Sussex.
MACFARLANE—CORY—July 14, at the Stadt Haus, and afterwards at the English Church, Lucerne, Switzerland, Rathven Montgomerie, eldest son of the late Rev J R Macfarlane, M A, Senior Chaplain, Madras Establishment, and grandson of the late Col Chase, 1st Madras Light Cavalry, to Rose, youngest daughter of the late W Cory, M D.

DEATHS.

BARCLAY—June 23, on board the British India steamer, Manora, Ian, eldest son of the late Deputy-Surgn-Genl A Barclay.
FADDY—July 17, at Southsea, Major L P Faddy, Bengal Ret List.
GLOSTER—July 2), at his residence, Rockfield, Kildemo, county Limerick, Richard Gloster, late of the 61st Regiment (2n l Bn Gloucestershire Regt), aged 86.
HAMILTON—July 13, at Exmouth, Charles, eldest surviving son of the late C Hamilton, Major Madras Cavalry, formerly of Northbrook House, near Exeter, aged 75.
LAYARD—July 17, at 54, Elm Park-road, S W, Sir Charles Peter Layard, K C M G, late of the Ceylon Civil Service, aged 86.
MACDONALD—July 20, at 123, Pall Mall, Gen W C R Macdonald, C B, late Madras Cavalry, aged 77.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

REEVES—August 1, at Kodaikanal, the wife of Surgeon-Major F C Reeves, of a daughter.

DEATH.

CORNWELL—August 5, at Hunter's Road, Vebery, Ada Constance, the dearly loved wife of Sergeant F W Cornwell, PWD, and eldest daughter of the late William Moore, of Lyme Regis, Dorset, aged 22 years and 6 months.

The Bombay Gazette

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1893.

THE despatch from the Secretary of State to the Government of India on the subject of holding simultaneous examinations for the Indian Civil Services in England and in India, and the minutes of dissent by Members of the Indian Council, have been presented to both Houses of Parliament. Lord Kimberley's despatch is a document of commendable brevity, scarcely occupying twenty lines of large type. The minutes which it has elicited occupy nine pages, the object of which is to show that the despatch ought not to have been written, or at all events, ought not to be sent as it stands to the Government of India. That is the burden of the six minutes which were placed on record, when it was understood that the despatch was approved by the Cabinet, and that Lord Kimberley was not prepared to modify it. The despatch accompanied a copy of the resolution which Mr. Paul moved in the House of Commons on the 2nd June, "That all open competitive examinations hitherto held in England alone for appointments to the Civil Services in India, shall henceforth be held simultaneously in India and England, such examinations in both countries being identical in their nature, and all who compete being finally classified in one list according to merit." In the laconic communication transmitting this pregnant sentence to the Viceroy in Council, Lord Kimberley requested his Excellency to give prompt and careful examination to the subject and to inform him in what mode, in his opinion, and under what conditions and limitations this Resolution could be carried into effect. We fail to see anything distinctly mandatory in these words, which only ask for the favour of the Viceroy's opinion as to the manner in which effect could be given to the proposal in question. The next two sentences which are also the concluding paragraphs of a singularly concise despatch, would seem to most people to reduce to the vanishing point any intimation of a desire that the Government of India should take any particular trouble to shape its opinion so that it might meet the view, whatever it may be of Lord Kimberley himself. His lordship said: I need scarcely add that in asking to be furnished with the opinion of your Government it is not my desire to fetter in any way their discretion as to the observations they may think fit to make on the Resolution. I will only point out that it is indispensable that an adequate number of the members of the Civil Service shall always be Europeans, and that no scheme would be admissible which does not fulfil that essential condition."

It certainly seems strange to find that six members of the Indian Council forthwith indited strong minutes to protest against the action of the Secretary of State. As we read the despatch, which has so fluttered the equanimity of a majority of the Council, it leaves the Government of India to state their opinion on the proposal without fear or favour. That there is no question of taking action, but only of asking for an opinion, is shown by the fact that Lord Kimberley himself, speaking in the House of Lords on the 14th June, stated that "it would be quite open to the Government of India to say that they were not able to find any way of carrying the resolution into effect." The Prime Minister, when interrogated on the subject in the House of Commons some days afterwards, stated that Lord Kimberley's explanation of the intention of Government was identical with his own. The members of the Indian Council, however, refuse to take comfort from such assurances; they regard the Government of India as bound hand and foot by the terms of the despatch to give full effect to the words of the resolution, which directs that all open competitive examinations hitherto held in England shall henceforth be held simultaneously in India. Sir John Strachey asserts that "according to the ordinary interpretation of the English language" the despatch can only be construed as an instruction to the Viceroy to give practical effect to the resolution of the House of Commons. It appears that the Judicial and Public Committee of the Council take this view, which it is difficult to reconcile with the plain words asking the Government of India to examine the subject, and give their opinion to the Secretary of State. This is not the only recent example of the elasticity which can be given to plain English when writers or speakers are strongly preoccupied by a leading idea. Sir A. Arbuthnot assumes it as self-evident, that the despatch directs that not only the Civil Service examinations, but all other competitive examinations now held in England to obtain a limited number of European recruits, for the Forest Department and the Public Works and Telegraphs, shall in future be held in India also. It is quite true that the sweeping terms employed in Mr. Paul's proposal would cover all these departments; but what is really aimed at is the Civil Service examination. Sir James Peile considers that the question is not whether the despatch should be sent to India, but whether it should go with the assent and support of the Council.

In a singularly cogent minute he contends that it is irregular, and even illegal, to make the reference to the Government of India at all, on the ground that under the Statute of 1858 the duty of making regulations for the Indian Civil Service rests upon the Secretary of State and not on the Indian Government. The opinion of the Government of India on the question is not in any doubt; it was arrived at after full consideration of the report of the Public Service Commission. In 1889 the Secretary of State and his Council fully approved and concurred in the unanimous opinion against simultaneous examinations. "We have rejected this proposal unanimously and absolutely for several sufficient reasons". "The Home Government supports our decision. To ask us to invite the Government of India to suggest how that should be done, which we are convinced should not be done, is to call on us to fatally compromise our position in the eyes of the Government of India and eventually in the eyes of the people of India." This is well and vigorously put. But it seems to us to be beside the question. The despatch does not ask the Government of India to suggest how that should be done which should not be done, but how it *could* be done, and under what limitations, and to give their own opinion as to whether it would be compatible with the "essential condition" that an adequate number of the members of the Civil Service shall always be Europeans. The discretion of the Government is expressly declared to be untramelled the Viceroy in Council is invited to —form an unbiassed and impartial judgment on the question. Sir James Peile, as might be expected, puts the case for the *status quo* with clearness and force. So long as India is governed by Great Britain, there must be a permanent administrative body of Europeans supplied by a certain definite amount of periodic recruitment. The competitive examination is held in England for this especial purpose. Exceptional Indians who have undergone English education and English training, are as free to compete as Englishmen. The Provincial Service—and the whole of the subordinate services are almost wholly reserved for natives, who are protected from European competition. To secure Englishmen and English qualifications for a limited and a special service special terms are necessary; to recruit natives who are not of the same quality on those special terms is sheer waste of Indian revenues. The natives fill the vast bulk of the offices under Government; the Europeans only a small and a continually decreasing number. Sir Alfred Lyall views the controversy from the same point of view. He considers that the system of Provincial Service recently introduced into India supplies a second avenue—closed to Europeans it may be said —by which to enter the higher Civil Service. They can enter by the door of competitive examination in England, and may also rise into it by nomination as a reward of exceptional merit in the Provincial Service. This being the present state of things, the result of the holding of simultaneous examinations in India and England would be to open greater facilities to natives of India than to European British subjects to enter the Indian Services and at no distant date, to practically exclude them altogether. What would be the result? The dislocation of the whole system of British administration in India, which would soon cease to exist. It may be doubted whether the small and semi-anglicised class who now agitate for simultaneous examination would profit much or long by the consequent change of the centre of political gravity in India. It is to be noted that while six members of the India Council penned crisp minutes of dissent, seven others preserved a silence, which if not golden, may at least prove to be discreet.

LORD HERSCHELL has been making some amusing allusions to the persistency with which he is spoken of as the Marquis of Lansdowne's successor. The Lord Chancellor the other evening presided at the annual dinner of one of our public institutions, and the worthy gentleman upon whom the duty devolved of proposing the Chairman's health rather incautiously referred to one of the now familiar announcements, as if the whole thing were settled and the noble chairman had ordered his outfit. In reply, Lord Herschell remarked that he was not aware of any prospect of his going to India, except from what he had read in the public press. With well-simulated gravity he went on to say that this is a free country, from which a man could not be transported without being first consulted. As he had not been consulted, and as he had received no invitation to go to India, he thought they might come to the conclusion that the announcement referred to must be at least a little premature. It is pointed out that this disclaimer is not, if we read between the lines incompatible with the general expectation on the subject; and indeed it is currently reported in Whitehall, says our London correspondent, that the position is Lord Herschell's, if he cares to accept it. His lordship is said to be hesitating for private reasons, one of which is a disinclination to be separated from his children. Lord Cromer, people say, is not only himself unwilling to become Viceroy, but is considered indispensable in Egypt at the present juncture. There is a rumour which finds favour in quarters that ought to be well informed, that Lord Rosebery is strongly backing Lord Roberts for the onerous appointment. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs is known to entertain a high opinion of the ex-Commander-in-Chief, and if the story is really true, Lord Rosebery may not be uninfluenced by the disquieting news—some of it from tainted sources—that we are receiving of Russia's designs on the Pamirs. But the appointment rests with the cabinet and not with the Foreign Secretary.

IN reviewing the Forest Administration Reports for 1890-91, the Governor-in-Council commented somewhat severely on the large number of offences on account of which proceedings had been taken "contrary to the spirit of previous Government orders." From the resolution on the administration of the Forest Department in the past year, which was issued yesterday, it appears that further correspondence on the subject has taken place. We are told that the question as to the best means of giving practical effect to the policy of Government in this matter, and of guarding against the abuses which may result from injudicious or over-zealous application of the existing provision of the Act for compounding offences, is receiving separate and careful consideration. In the Northern District, where these cases were most numerous last year, there is now a diminution; so also is there in Sind. But in the Southern Circle a slight increase is recorded, which does not serve to counterbalance the decreases in the other circles. The fact is accounted for in the resolution by the provision of an abundance of cheap forest products for fuel and the removal of temptation to illicit cutting unfenced areas where grass is abundant are naturally very tempting to men grazing cattle, and the cases of impounding are numerous; but as it is believed that ignorance as to the limits of closed areas is the cause of the closed areas being trespassed upon, Mr. Shuttleworth is asked to arrange for the demarcation of all such areas. His Excellency disapproves of large numbers of cattle being impounded.

CALCUTTA is to be congratulated in the excellence of its Volunteer Rifle Battalion, which has just completed the second year of its existence. The corps has already a strength of five hundred and thirty-three members, of whom two hundred are Reserves. In Bombay when the Reserve movement was resurrected there were found to be only two local gentlemen anxious to join, and both unfortunately were ineligible. But in the Bengal capital there appears to be a more accurate appreciation of the necessity for volunteering to the reserve. To people in Bombay frontier disturbances are but the squabbles of remote tribes, with which they have no more to do than with the fight of a flock of sparrows, and imagine they have if anything less reason to trouble themselves as to skill in bearing arms than they would have in insular England. But in Calcutta, though there is the usual percentage of indifferent members who are content to be absent from parade very frequently, a larger proportion of the able-bodied population bear arms. Men of all stations in society have joined the Rifle Corps, and we are told that among the deaths of the year none was more regretted than that of "No. 723, Volunteer Sir Henry Leland Harrison," who though one of the highest Civil Servants of the Crown in India was content to serve as a private volunteer. Calcutta moreover suffers much as Bombay does, and for the matter of that most British Volunteer Corps do, in its inability to get suitable men to accept commissions. The expense attendant upon acceptance of office as a rule suffices to discourage promotion from the ranks, and attention may be usefully again directed to this difficulty in the hope that some solution may be arrived at. An unpopular or incompetent officer has often destroyed a whole company. Now that Cadet Corps are becoming increasingly popular, it is possible that from them in future years a constant stream of qualified officers may be drawn, but at present the dearth of suitable men is one of the most discouraging features of volunteering. In the Calcutta Corps it appears they are short of four captains, two lieutenants, and a second lieutenant. While so under-officered it is to be feared that the Corps would be of remarkably little service in the field in case of emergency.

THE correspondence moved for by Lord Northbrook on the subject of the Home charges was issued the day before the mail left. These papers, perhaps for the first time, do justice to Sir Thomas Seccombe, whose gratuitous labours as member of the Commission presided over by Lord Northbrook resulted, as Viscount Cross points out, in a saving of, about £1,000,000. The credit due to Sir Thomas is handsomely recognised by Sir A. Godley in the letter he wrote expressing the Secretary of State's appreciation of the former's services. "Lord Cross," says the writer, "feels assured of your satisfaction at feeling how large a sum you have saved to the revenues of India in the final portion of the service, exceeding sixty-three years, which you have rendered to that country."

COLONEL C. D. A. STRAKER, Royal (late Madras) Artillery, has permission to retire from the Service on August 31, 1893.

IT is understood that Lord Brassey has been offered, and has accepted, the chairmanship of the Royal Commission on the Opium Trade.

THE Prince of Wales on the 20th instant laid the first stone of the new harbour at Dover. Lord Dufferin presided at the subsequent luncheon.

THE *London Gazette* of the 14th ult. contains a general order on the field operations at Chilas, in which the Viceroy of India directs the publication of a lengthy letter from the Adjutant-General in India dated May 10 last, submitting, under the orders of the Commandor-in-Chief in India, a despatch from Col. A. G. A. Durand, C. B., commanding the troops in the Gilgit Agency, and reporting the particulars of the action fought in Chilas on March 5 last. Col. Durand's letter covers a report from Lieut. F. J. Moberly, 39th Bengal Inf., in which is given a very graphic account of the actual fighting at Chilas.

AMONG recently proved Wills are notified that of the Most Hon. Maria Eliza, Marchioness of Ailesbury, £79,000; Rt. Hon. Caroline Rose Stewart, Dowager Countess of Buchan, £11,000; Mr. John Chynoweth, £71,000; Rt. Hon. George William, Baron Deramore, £53,000; Mr. Edward Bickerton Evans, £48,000; Sir John Kingston James, £19,084; Battista Monico, £11,466; Lord Mowbray and Stourton, £8,034 (exclusive of freeholds); Mr. Charles George Palgrave, £64,000; Rt. Hon. and Rev. William Joseph, 13th Baron Petre, £52,697; Mr. William Wakefield, J.P., £307,764 (gross).

SIR CHARLES PETER LAYARD, K.C.M.G., died on July 17, at 54, Elm Park-road, S.W., aged 86. He was born in 1806. After leaving St. John's College, Cambridge, he was appointed, in 1830, extra assistant in the Colonial Secretary

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

A RUSSIAN MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.

LONDON, Aug. 7.

Five Russian war-ships, which are destined to form the nucleus of a Russian Mediterranean Squadron, are expected at Toulon on the 20th instant.

THE SIAMESE QUESTION.

The Siamese are arranging for the prompt evacuation of the left bank of the River Mekong claimed by the French, and will also facilitate the French occupation of Chantaboon.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.

The Emperor William has returned to Germany from Cowes. His Majesty's intercourse with the members of the Royal family at Osborne, was marked by the utmost cordiality throughout his stay.

THE SILVER QUESTION IN AMERICA.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7.

Mr. Bland the leader of the Silver Party in the House of Representatives, proposes to introduce a Bill to repeal the monthly purchase of Silver and to substitute free coinage at the ratio of sixteen to one.

THE HAZARA'S ATTACK ON THE AMIR'S TROOPS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, Aug. 7.

Reports from Afghanistan state that the Hazaras made a night attack on General Sher Mahomed's Camp, which was repulsed with a heavy loss. The General, however, is said to be missing.

DISTURBANCES AT KHELAT.

Some disturbances have occurred in the Khelat State. One Gowhar Khan with three or four hundred followers has raided some villages only ten miles from the town of Khelat. Major Peile, commanding the troops there, is advising the son of the Khan, who is administering the State, how to repel the marauders, and if the latter approach nearer the capital, our troops will attack and disperse them.

PROMOTION IN THE DISTRICT STAFF OF INDIA, BENGAL PRESIDENCY.

There will shortly be an extraordinary run of promotion in connection with appointments to the District Staff of India in the Bengal, Presidency, viz :—Brigadier General Barnard will vacate Nerbudda district on November 15th. In the Bombay district Brigadier Generals Combe, at Karachi, and Budgen, at Bombay, and Major General Beville, Deesa ; but officiating at Mhow, will have to go on January 9th, 26th, and April 1st respectively. In the Madras district, Brigadier General Faunce, Bangalore, completes his five years on February 7th. Major General Wolseley, Belgaum, on April 1st, and Brigadier General Rowlandson, southern district, on July 11. Of these officers Generals Wolseley, Combe, and Budgeon belong to the British service. Looking still further ahead, Brigadier-General Prettyman, commanding Sirhind district, will have to vacate in December 1894. It is in a measure fortunate that all these vacancies will occur, as they will facilitate the redistribution of Commands when effect is given to the bill abolishing the Presidency Commander-in-Chief.

CHOLERA IN PROME.

Cholera is visiting Prome. The first death occurred on the 10th July, and since then there have been sixteen deaths, chiefly amongst the civil population.

CRICKET : GANESHKIND *Vs.* INDIAN MARINE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, Aug 7.

Despite a threatening morning, the match between the Ganeshkhind team and the Indian Marine came off to-day. Lord Harris batted well for his team, compiling 63 runs. Before his dismissal, Captain Stockdale contributed an extremely useful 28. The innings closed before lunch for 117. The visitors made a good start, but after four wickets had fallen a rot set in, and the remainder were dismissed without difficulty. The Indian Marine fielded very well throughout, the wicket was a rather treacherous one, but on the whole the game had many points of interest. The following are the scores :—

GUNISHKHIND.

First Innings.

Lord Harris, b Shearme	63
Capt Fowle, b and c Burjorjee	11
Dr Martin, c and b Burjorjee	0
Col Harris, b Beaumont	3
Capt Stockdale, b Shearme	28
Sergt Elliott, c and b Beaumont	1
Mr Edgerley, b Beaumont	4
Pte Herron, b Beaumont	0
Captain Gabb, b Beaumont	3
Mr. McQueen, not out	1
Corpl Sharpe, c Shearme, b Burjorjee	0
Extras	3
Total	117

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Lieut Beaumont	95	32	5	5
Burjorjee	77	57	1	3
Jehangirjee	30	18	0	0
Khanmetu	10	2	0	0
Lieut Shearne	25	5	1	2

INDIAN MARINE.

First Innings.

Lieut Shearne, b Stockdale	16
Khanmeter, b Stockdale	23
Lieut Vines, b Fowle	28
Jehangirjee, c and b Stockdale	6
Lieut Willock, c Col Harris, b Stockdale	2
Burgorjee, b Fowle	0
Lieut Wilson, l b w b Fowle	2
Lieut St John, c Herron, b Stockdale	5
Lieut Mitchell, b Fowle	2
Lieut Beaumont, c Martin, b Fowle	2
Capt Holland, not out	1
Extras	4
Total	91

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Capt Fowle	100	32	3	5
Corpl Sharpe	50	6	6	0
Lord Harris	45	17	3	0
Col Harris	10	6	0	0
Capt Stockdale	80	26	5	5

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, Aug. 6.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macpherson from Calcutta, Madras, and Colombo arrived here yesterday morning.

COLOMBO, Aug. 7.

French Mail steamers Eridan, from Calcutta, and Caledonien, from China, arrived.

Orient steamer Oratava, from Suez, arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, Aug. 5.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet.

Good Dhollera	4 3-16

The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.

2½ per cent. Consols	98 3-8
3 per cent. Rentes	99½
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	108½
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	88 3-8
Bar Silver	33½

THE SILVER OF THE EXCHANGE BANKS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, Aug. 7.

The Silver of Exchange Banks is now being coined at Mints in Calcutta and Bombay, on terms offered by the Government, and accepted by the banks, subject to the appeal to the Secretary of State. The Government has heard nothing from the India Office on the subject of the appeal, and does not know whether it has been presented. The bulk of silver is being dealt with in Bombay, and it is expected that all will have been disposed of in a month or six weeks.

MOVEMENT OF FRONTIER TROOPS.

The Squadron of the 6th Bombay Cavalry at Mastung is returning to Khelat, leaving twenty-five sabres at Mastung. A company of the Highland Light Infantry has returned to Fyzabad from Gorakhpur.

THE OUTRAGE AT MOZHIL KOT.

Another report from entirely a different source, but exactly similar to the former one, has been received of a recent outrage at Mozhil Kot. The inspecting officer, I. S. Troops, hopes that many more regiments will camp out this year. The propositions for camps are now with the Commander-in-Chief, for decision.

THE HEMP DRUGS COMMISSION.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Aug. 7.

The Hemp Drugs Commission sat to-day for the purpose of recording evidence. No one, however, turned up in response to the invitation.

SIMULTANEOUS EXAMINATIONS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

KARAD, Aug. 7.

A large and representatjve public meeting was held in the Library Hall, yesterday evening, under the presidency of Mr. Hari Purushotam Kelkar. A memorial was sent thanking the House of Commons, Mr. Paul and others, and praying for the expedition of execution of the Simultaneous Examinations resolution.

THE SILVER QUESTION IN INDIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—How completely is a recent statement of Sir George Chesney's being borne out, that currency disputants are divided into two groups, bimetallists and monometallists, "into those who have studied the currency question, and those who have not!" The Government of India wants gold in exchange for silver, in order that it may pay the interest (in gold) on the loans raised here. That Government has adopted a mechanism of exchange—by closing mints—which will procure the sovereign which it needs to buy in exchange for fifteen rupees which it must needs sell. The whole point of the currency revolution of a fortnight since was that the Government of India should get gold for silver ; the whole evidence of Lord Herschell's Commission was taken to this end, and yet Sir John Lubbock asks whether the Indian Government, besides *getting* gold for silver at a ratio, must also *give* gold for silver at the ratio (pure bimetallism), and Mr. Gladstone finds himself unable to reply to this amazing question ! The one right hon. member was a Royal Commissioner on Currency, while the other made a most glib speech recently in the House of Commons, before which speech many of us believed that the Prime Minister of England had at least crossed the *pons asinorum*—Mill's "Quantity Theory" of money.

But we have by this time learned that the standard money of 280 millions of our fellow subjects has been tampered with by her Majesty's Government, not wilfully nor dishonestly, but through pure ignorance. If Lord Kimberley and the India Office would stand firm and refuse to sell exchange for less than 16d. per rupee, that is at least the scientific position connoted by the Simla solution ; but unless Sir David Barbour is hurried home at once to attend to these sales of Council bills, Lord Lansdowne will be undone, and this solely because of the ignorance of economic primaries at this end.

The importers of Indian wheat, cotton, and jute have got to pay rupees for what they are importing from India ; the Council draft they buy are for this purpose—they are demand drafts for rupees upon the Indian treasuries. If, then, the Indian Government makes a firm offer of fifteen rupees for a sovereign, the importers must pay a sovereign for fifteen rupees or put up their shutters. They can no longer—the Indian mints being closed—buy Nevada silver bullion and take it to Bombay for "free-coinage" into rupees.—Yours faithfully,

MORETON FREWEN.

Newlands, Hants, July 16.

MILITARY NEWS.

LIEUTENANT G. H. BOILEAU, Royal Engineers, is posted to the Bombay Sappers and Miners.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. R. S. O. HEWITT, Royal Artillery, proceeds home on promotion.

THE next Soldiers' Industrial Exhibition will be held during the cold weather of 1893-94 at Calcutta.

LIEUTENANT E. H. de V. ATKINSON, Royal Engineers, is posted to the Zhob Division, Military Works.

LIEUTENANT A. S. CAPPER, Royal Artillery, is appointed to the Central India Horse, on probation, for the Staff Corps.

CAPTAIN E. H. HEMMING, Royal Engineers, is transferred temporarily to the Head-quarters of the Director-General of Millitary Works.

THE Government have accorded discretionary power to the Volunteer Corps in the plains to adopt khaki serge instead of a khaki drill uniform, should they prefer to do so.

THE following appointments are sanctioned :—King's Own Scottish Borderers : Captain D. A. Macfarlane, to be Adjutant. 15th Bengal Lancers : Captain H. R. Tate, Squadron Commander, to move up in grade succession, remaining seconded. Captain W. C. Pollard to move up in grade succession. 32nd Pioneers: Lieutenant H. Bethune, to be permanent Wing Officer.

THE undermentioned have leave of absence :—Major-General Sir W. K. Elles, Commanding Rawalpindi District ; Brigadier-General F. Lance, Commanding Presidency District ; and Captain G. P. Ranken, District Recruiting Officer, Peshawar, sixty days' privilege leave ; and Lieutenant H. P. Sykes, 2nd Dragoon Guards, ninety days' privilege leave. Captain E. M. Perceval, Royal Artillery, to England, for 12 months, on private affairs.

THE undermentioned have passed the HigherStandard in Hindustani :—Major Stephenson, Essex Regiment ; Captains Johnson, Herbert and Muter, Royal Artillery ; Hunter-Weston, Royal Engineers ; and Graham, 5th Lancers ; Lieutenants Stewart and Watts, Royal Artillery ; White and Marshall, Devonshire Regiment ; Johnson, 1st Bengal Cavalry ; Campbell, 7th Bengal ; Bleckley and Becher, 8th Bengal ; Young, 10th Bengal Lancers ; Hughes, 14th Bengal Lancers ; Ward, 4th Bengal Infantry ; Teed, 12th Bengal Infantry ; Davies, 22nd Punjab Infantry ; Thompson, 26th Punjab Infantry ; Solly Flood, 29th Punjab Infantry ; Lang, 1-1st Gurkhas ; Brown, 2-3rd Gurkhas ; Crocker and Peck, 2nd Punjab Cavalry ; Roe, 5th Punjab Infantry ; Ayerst, 2nd Bombay Infantry ; Andrew, 11th Bengal Infantry ; Drummond, 39th Bombay Infantry ; McLeod, 2-3rd Gurkhas.

A PRELIMINARY dinner of the Bengal Cavalry Dinner Club took place at the Grand Hotel, Trafalgar-square, on Wednesday, 19th ult. Before dinner a meeting of the club was held under the chairmanship of Gen. Sir Sam Browne, G.C.B., for the purpose of confirming the rules framed by the provisional committee, and of electing a permanent committee to look after the future interests of the club. A letter to the honorary secretary from Sir Dighton Probyn (who was present) was read, stating that H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., as Hon. Colonel of the 6th Bengal Cavalry and the 11th Bengal Lancers, had graciously accepted the office of president, and that H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., as Hon. Colonel of the 13th Bengal Lancers, and H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, K.G., as Hon. Colonel of the 10th Bengal Lancers, those of vice-presidents. An annual dinner will in future be held in London, and Mr. Austin Low, of Messrs. Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, has consented to act as hon. secretary.

ENGLISH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, July 21.

WITH the exception of one or two slight breezes the proceedings of the Committee on the Home Rule Bill have been this week particularly tame. This is partly to be accounted for by the absence of any strongly controversial points in the "compartment" under consideration, and partly by the critical nature of foreign affairs. The lesson, it may be hoped, will not be thrown away on our friends across the channel. We differ in our views as to internal politics, and sometimes carry our differences to a point that in some countries would be considered dangerous ; but when we are assailed, or think we are assailed from without, then our domestic disputes are forgotten, and we assume in the face of the world a solidarity that might put to shame the croakers who are so fond of proclaiming *urbi et orbi* that we do not possess the spirit of our forefathers. These charges often enough are not believed by those who make them, though greedily swallowed by rivals jealous of our greater commercial and political supremacy. In a crisis like the present a great deal depends upon the Press. Our own journals though they have not ceased to insist upon the maintenance of our rights in the Far East have conducted the discussion with a degree of restraint that might have been imitated by their French contemporaries at the beginning of the week. If such language, as some of the Paris papers, and those not the most insignificant employed about England, had been used with reference to Germany, one shudders to think what would be the consequence. The tirades of boulevard journalists, however, do not seriously disturb us in this country, and are taken for what they are worth. We look for ignorant and childish abuse from the *cafe* politicians and publicists, but when a Senator indulges in a style of criticism that would be discreditable to a contributor to the *Cocarde* we can perceive how degraded politics may become even in a country once considered the home of politeness. "The English are born braggarts" writes this Senator Magnier in the *Evenement*. The "noisy outcry of the London papers" is "part and portion of the farce enacted by the Gladstone Cabinet;" the refusal of England to create a financial panic in Paris by withdrawing its protection from Egyyt, the stoppage of the Mizon Mission and above all "the eviction of the Special Ambassador spontaneously delegated by France to the Duke of York's Wedding—French *amour propre* is a delicate thing—all these and other enormities exemplify according to this wise Senator "the hatred with England persecutes the French race all over the globe." There are happily signs that some of the more respectable of the French papers are a little ashamed of their violence : at any rate within the past forty-eight hours an improvement in their tone has been noticed, though the baser sheets are as excited as ever, and are demanding M. de Blowitz's blood, or rather the withdrawal of his letters of naturalization ! Frenchmen not without intelligence, are I hear, going about London saying that France has frightened England. We shall see. At any rate, it might be thought by some a libel on France to associate her with the action of a body of politicians who seem to be anxious, or are driven by electioneering exigencies to embark on a course as full of shoals and quicksands as the one that proved so disastrous not only to the reputation of Jules Ferry, but to the prestige of France. The country has every confidence in Lord Rosebery, and unless he is hampered by his colleagues in the Cabinet—an unlikely contingency—the whole nation feels that the interests of England are safe in his hands. It is not at such moments as these that patriotic Britons will be inclined to lament the exclusion of Mr. Labouchere from the inner circle of the Administration. We can imagine how immensely Lord Rosebery's task would be increased if he had Mr. Labouchere for a colleague. There seems up to the time of writing, some doubt as to the precise extent of territory that France claims from Siam. At first we were told that the demand was for the whole of the tract east of the Mekong from the Chinese frontier to the Kratieli. Probably this is an exaggeration; but we shall know for certain what it is France wants. Although the French Government with or without design have for such a long time left their Embassy in London without a head, Lord Dufferin has been sent back to Paris, and one of the things he has been requested to ascertain, is the geographical limits of the French Ultimatum. If France has really asked for as much as originally stated, she is asking for more than she is entitled to receive. To talk about conceding the left bank of the Mekong "from the Chinese frontier" is in all the circumstances little short of ridiculous. Just below the Chinese frontier and to the east of the Mekong, are certain districts belonging to Kyang Hung, over which the Celestial Empire exercises a far from ineffective control. The instant France attempted to seize those provinces she would come into collision with China, and that power, as telegrams from Tientsin show, is watching very closely the progress of events. The batch of not very illustrious individuals who now control the destinies of France, but who, before this letter reaches Bombay, may have been relegated to the obscurity which is the fate of ministries in that country, may pride themselves as having twisted the tail of the British lion ; but their jubilation may turn out to be premature ; and their seemingly carefully planned action in Indo-China, may prove a barren victory if its effect is to compel England in self-defence to join the Triple Alliance. That this is possible the Develles, the Magniers, and the Deloncles must now begin to see. The *Times* which in foreign matters reflects the views of Lord Rosebery, has without any circumlocution warned the French what may happen if they pursue their present dog in the manger Colonial policy. "The people of the United Kingdom," says the leading journal, "are sincerely desirous of maintaining the attitude they have so long preserved of amity with France and of neutrality in European rivalries. But we can conceive of a state of things that would force them to take up a different position and to range themselves on the side of other Powers whose alliances are rendered necessary by the restlessness of the French."

Mr. Alpheus Cleophas Morton has his eagle eye upon India still. The grievances of Mr. N. D. Kalvade, the ex-magistrate and mamlutdar, have provided the honourable member for Peterborough, with the opportunity for which he has so long and patiently waited, of showing that, although he has not visited India, he knows quite as much about the affairs of our Eastern Empire as any Mr. Pagett, M.P., which we are all aware is saying a good deal. He has given notice to all whom it may concern that he intends on "an early day" (sanguine man !) to move the following resolution :—"That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that all Indian officials should be allowed to appeal to the Home Government without regard being had to the amount of their salary." There will no doubt be great rejoicing among the army of red chuprassies, peons, and so forth, but Lord Kimberley (Secretary of State for India and Lord President of the Council) will require another Under Secretary of State. There is a rumour that Mr. Morton's feverish anxiety to pose as an authority on India is not altogether pleasing either to the Caine party or the Wedderburn party ; but of course the report is a baseless and malignant invention. Equally unfounded is the statement that Mr. George Russell, has passed a succession of sleepless nights since Mr. Morton came to the determination to assist himself, and not to allow Mr. Seymour Keay, Mr. Schwan, Mr. MacNeill and the rest to have it all their own way. Whether Mr. Morton goes so far as to aspire to the leadership of the not yet created Indian group, of which we have heard something lately, I am not in a position to say.

Sir Seymour King proposes early in the coming week, to ask whether the Indian Government has yet reconsidered the question of permitting cooly emigration to French colonies and whether the Secretary of State has come to any decision on the subject. I dare say the honorable member has reasons for calling attention to the matter just now, but on the face of it, it does not seem that the moment chosen is exactly opportune. If the authorities have consented to the wishes of the French planters, well and good, but if the subject is still hung up, why excite further the susceptibilities of our susceptible neighbours. There are Frenchmen who would see in the attitude of the Indian Government another veiled menace to France.

Sir Seymour is engaged more usefully, I venture to think, when he is pressing the claims of badly-used Indian officials. He has dug up a letter written in the beginning of 1893 by the then Under-Secretary of State, the late Mr. J. K. Cross, containing this passage :—"Lord Kimberley observes that you are under the impression that the present disparity of the pay of Civil and Military engineers will be maintained. That is not the case. It is intended that they shall in future receive the same amount of pay." Sir Seymour desires to know whether this promised equalisation has yet taken place, and if not when it is intended to carry out the resolution arrived at ten years ago. The inquiry is not unreasonable or premature, and for the sake of the C. E.'s it is to be hoped that the answer will be satisfactory.

Nothing official has transpired respecting the *personnel* of the Opium Commission, but this morning the *Times'* lobby contributor states that Lord Brassey is to be the chairman. There has been an idea in some quarters that Lord Reay would be chosen for the post, and people are puzzled to know why something is not done for him. Considering the scarcity of Liberal peers it is surprising that the Government do not avail themselves of his lordship's services in some way or other. Perhaps, they are holding him in reserve for an appointment abroad. Lord Reay is a regular attendant at the House of Lords, but so far this Session he has been a silent member : I cannot recall any occasion on which he has opened his lips, though Indian questions have occupied more than the usual amount of their lordships' attention. Lord Brassey will in most respects be an ideal chairman, for he is impartial, broad-minded, and a thorough man of the world. Sir William Wedderburn, through Mr. Naoroji on Monday, put a question respecting native representation on the Commission. The hon. Baronet wished to ascertain what means would be taken to secure the services of men "who will truly represent Indian public opinion ; and whether the Government will consult public bodies and associations in India with a view to selecting representatives who enjoy the confidence of the Indian community." Mr. Russell's reply was I believe considered by Sir William and his friends somewhat ambiguous. It would, said the Under-Secretary, be part of the duty of the Commission to ascertain the feeling of the people of India and that would necessarily be done by the taking of evidence "rather than by attempting to represent on the Commission the numerous races and sects." Many think that the request of Sir W. Wedderburn was rather remarkable in the circumstances and that some people seem to have representation on the brain. Public bodies and associations in India can hardly expect to be treated differently from public bodies and associations in England. We shall be having Mr. Paul demanding next that the students associations throughout the peninsula should be consulted before a new Viceroy is chosen.

The following translation of the Latin speech delivered at Cambridge by the Public Orator, Dr. Sandys on the occasion of the Maharaja of Bhavnagar's admission to the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, may interest your readers :—

"Beyond the mouths of the Indus, in a remote recess of the Indian Ocean, there rises amid the waves a prosperous region, which is not only united with our Indian Empire by the iron chain of the railway, but is also bound to ourselves by the firmest bonds of friendship. To-day we welcome the presence of the illustrious king of that region, one who is most legal to our Empire in India ; is not only equipped for war, for he has readily raised an auxiliary force for the defence of our frontier. He is also distinguished in the arts of peace. He has ordered law and justice to be held in honour in his dominions ; he has built a home of Health to alleviate the sufferings of the sick ; for the advantage of his people at large, he has everywhere encouraged the study of learning ; and, lastly, he has founded a College of Arts, which, by reason of its affiliation to a neighbouring University of our own Empire, we gladly salute as the daughter of our own Sister-University. We rejoice to-day in adorning, with our Academic title, a king who has done such signal service for the Education of his people ; we also rejoice in counting one of his own countrymen as a well-known member of our University Eleven. I present to you an illustrious Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, the Maharaja of Bhavnagar.

The London correspondent of the most powerful of our provincial papers, the *Manchester Guardian*, makes a suggestion that seems to be deserving of consideration. He says :—"The Government have done a graceful act and one that will be appreciated throughout India by conferring the rank of Colonel in the British army on his Highness the Maharajah of Mysore. There is a feeling in some quarters that it would be fitting if a similar compliment were paid to the Maharajah of Bhaonagar and the other Indian Princes who came to England to take part in the opening of the Imperial Institute. Certainly such an honour might with special appropriateness be bestowed upon the Maharajah of Bhaonagar, who has recently contributed a regiment of Lancers to the Imperial Defence Corps."

Lord Kimberley's despatch on the much-discussed resolution passed by the House of Commons last month has together with the minutes of the dissentient members of council been published as a Parliamentary paper. The members, six in number, whose opinion are thus recorded, are General Sir Peter Lumsden, Sir John Strachey, General Sir Donald Stewart, Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, Sir James Peile, and Sir Alfred Lyall. The remaining seven members who abstain from expressing their views in waiting are Mr. Robert Hardie, Vice-President of the Council, Major-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, Mr. Bertram Woodhouse Currie, Sir Robert Davies, Major-General Sir Owen Tudor Burne, Sir Charles Turner, and General Sir Archibald Alison. The despatch which is as succinct as some of the minutes are diffuse, has I believe already reached you. It appears that the Council were not asked to consider whether the despatch should be sent out but whether it should go to India backed up with their assent. Nor was an opportunity afforded them of modifying it. "We have been given to understand, says Sir J. Strachey, rather complainingly, that it has already been finally decided by her Majesty's Government that this Despatch shall be sent to India without alteration in its present form." Sir John Strachey's minute is couched in what many will consider strong language, and is therefore less forcible than the minutes of some of his more dispassionate colleagues. "It is now proposed," he says, "to adopt measures which will probably, or as their advocates anticipate, will certainly take away from our countrymen a large proportion of their power and responsibility." And to whom was that power and responsibility to be transferred ? To "men chosen from a class infinitesimally small in proportion to the population, a class intellectually acute, but composed almost entirely of the very feeblest element of the people," of "men who are looked upon by the more vigorous and politically important races as being as much foreigners as ourselves." And "as a climax of absurdity—for it is nothing else—these men are to be selected from that class by literary examination only."

Mrs. F. W. Verney, wife of the Secretary of the Siamese Legation, gave an evening party on Wednesday at her residence in Onslow Gardens, "to meet some members of the Indian National Congress." Probably, owing to counter attraction—and Wednesday night is always a very busy one socially—there were not many politicians of note present, but any deficiency in the attendance of prominent public men was more than compensated for by the large attendance of ladies. Among the latter was one who bears a name honoured in Bombay, Miss Frere, daughter of Sir Bartle.

"A COUNTRYMAN, who has been endeavouring to obtain some definite ideas about the Royal Wedding functions from the various illustrated papers, applies to me" (writes Mr. Labouchere in *Truth*) "for help and enlightenment. His bewilderment is natural. He finds in the first place that we seem to have a new Queen reigning over us, for her Majesty's features in the illustrated papers bear no resemblance to the authorised portraits of Queen Victoria. A still more remarkable fact is, that in the course of the festivities, her Majesty seems to have continually changed her habiliments. One of the special artists shows her with an ermine train ; another represents her with no train at all. Another shows her with a crown on her head ; another appears to have seen her only a few minutes later in a bonnet. One picture represents the Queen and her guests all taking lunch at one table, another places them at different tables. One paper surpasses itself by two views of the route to the railway station, in each of which the Royal couple are provided with a totally different carriage, and different horses and attendants. I think I can explain how these discrepancies arise. Probably some of the special artists despatched to sketch the wedding made their sketches at Henley."

THE MUNICIPAL BALANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—We must all agree with Mr. Sleigh, that if any statement of facts is laid before the public, whether with regard to the relations between the Bank of Bombay and the Municipality, or any other matter, such statement should be accurate ; but I must express considerable surprise that such a preface on his part should have been followed by a series of statements which I can only characterize as totally inaccurate, both in what they expressly assert, and in what they imply.

The Secretary to the Bank of Bombay describes his Directors as reviewing in August 1891 their past relations with the Municipality, in the light of existing circumstances, and after deliberate consideration coming to the conclusion that these could no longer be maintained, and formulating therefore a new and complete scheme of policy for future guidance. "I am instructed to state that in August 1891 the condition of the money market was such that the Bank found it impossible to obtain suitable employment for more than a small portion of its resources," and so on. "Under the pressure of these circumstances and in the consciousness" of having treated us with exceptional liberality in the past "the Bank intimated it could no longer continue to pay interest on the Corporation's current deposits, and *to prevent invidious distinctions being made in future*," (the italics are mine) "the Bank further intimated that it would not resume the payment of interest on *current* deposits, but that, when the state of the money market permitted, it would do so on fixed deposits."

I would ask any candid person whether this does not imply that the relations between the two parties were carefully and deliberately reviewed by the governing body of the Bank in August 1891, that they came to the conclusion that the payment of interest on current Municipal deposits, should thence forward cease altogether and for ever, but that on Municipal monies on fixed deposit, interest should, when the time came, be paid ; and that all these conclusions where forth with communicated to the Municipality.

What are the facts ? On 6th December 1890 formal notice was received from the Secretary to the Bank that six months after date the payment of interest on current deposits would cease. Not a word was said as to whether this change of policy was to be temporary (the result of the congested condition of the Money Market) or permanent, though this question was obviously one of paramount importance, and as a matter of fact it was only with the greatest difficulty that I was able, some months after, to extract from the secretary the admission that it was not due to temporary adverse circumstances, but was intended as a permanent change of policy.

On 10th August 1891 I sent to the Secretary of the Bank an extract from a speech delivered by the Chairman at the General Meeting of the Shareholders held on 7th idem, in which he attributed the action of the Bank with respect to Municipal deposits to the congested state of the Money Market, and expressed a hope—speaking for himself—that the time would come when they might revert with profit to their former practice ; and I asked the Secretary to tell me whether I was to understand that the change of policy was temporary or permanent ; and he replied to me on 13th August that the Bank "were not prepared to commit themselves to any policy in the future." Being further pressed by me he wrote on 18th August that the change was meant to be permanent.

So far from the Bank telling me at the same time that they were prepared in due course to accept our money on an interest bearing fixed deposit account, a statement which, whether intentionally or not, is so made in the Secretary's letter as to convey the impression that they were anxious to make amends to the Municipality for the loss entailed by the other decision, they have never made any such communication to me up to this day. I asked the Bank in July 1891 whether they would pay us interest on fixed deposit account, and was answered that the Bank were not then taking money on fixed deposit.

I believed (I may be wrong) that the notice of 6th December, 1890 was issued without the knowledge of the Directors, but whether this be so or not, no intimation was made to me as to the policy to be pursued in the future, until public attention had been directed to the subject by the debates in the Corporation, and I had once again insisted on an answer.

I have often received and profited by friendly advice from Mr. Sleigh, as from many other gentlemen in the mercantile world, but am not disposed to discuss with him or his directors the adequacy of the powers of dealing with their monies which the Municipality possess under their Act. I have not accused the Bank of unfair treatment, and presume they know their own business better than I can tell it to them ; as I am sure the municipality knows theirs.

The penultimate paragraph of Mr. Sleigh's letter correctly informs you that our bank balances have been very greatly reduced during the past two years. But when he goes on to point out that if interest had been payable on them it would, on this account, have amounted only to a small sum, he conveys an incorrect implication. We have reduced our balances *because* the payment of interest has ceased ; if it had not they would not have been so low, nor the hypothetical realizations of interest so small, as he makes out. That we invested at advantage (as circumstances have turned out) when the Bank ceased to pay interest, is a result purely fortuitous. We might have had to buy and sell at rates which would have far outweighed the difference between the 4 per cent. given by the paper and the 2 per cent. given by the bank.

I observe that no attempt is made to buttress the fiction I have already exposed, that the action of the bank did not constitute a "permanent change of policy" ; and I trust that next time the Directors come forward to "correct misstatements, made innocently enough, but calculated to mislead" they will themselves be a little more careful to avoid misleading others.—Yours etc.,

H. A. AGWORTH,
Municipal Commissioner,
Municipal Offices, 7th August 1893.

MR. J. DEASY, M.P., who was recently fined for an assault on a servant, has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

SPEAKING at a Conservative meeting at Boston, Lord R. Churchill, who has finally decided to contest Central Bradford against Mr. Shaw-Lefevre at the next General Election, said there was at present no confidence in commercial or manufacturing circles, and no one knew what further iniquity and injustice Mr. Gladstone might commit, but he predicted that the approaching General Election would result in the right hon. gentleman's political ruin.

FROM the recent conviction of a palmister, it appears that the magistrates of Darlington see no reason to distinguish between what is politely known as palmistry, and what is vulgarly described as fortune telling. In that town there is, it appears, "an authoress" who calls herself in public announcements "Merline (propably intended for a feminine form of Merlin), the clever palmist," with a note that she gives "wonderful correct delineations," and may be consulted at a certain address. It happened the other day—or possibly it was so planned that a policeman's wife called upon Merline, and, having ascertained that the oracle's charge was half-a-crown if the utterance were put in writing, or eighteenpence if it was conveyed by word of mouth, she submitted her hands for examination. The peep into futurity, if it could be relied upon, was certainly not dear at either of these sums. The palmist's words were : "There is a splendid legacy coming to you. You see that little cross, there. You'll have three offers of marriage within twelve months. You have recently broken one engagement off." She also said that her client was more settled now ; that he had had many changes in her younger days ; but she would be very comfortable in circumstances when she was married, but she would not be married until she was forty. Unfortunately for Merline's character for penetration, her visitor had at that time been married ten years, and had a family of five children. It was on this evidence that Merline was indicted under the Vagrant Act, "Palmists" throughout the country, both male and female, will doubtless take note of the fact that this Professor of their art, has been sentenced to pay a fine of ten shillings and costs, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment.

BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

AN ordinary monthly meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation was held in the Municipal Office yesterday afternoon. Mr. R. M. Syani was called to the chair and there were also present :—Messrs. Ardasir Dadabhai Mody, Badrudin bin Abdula Kur, Brigade-Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel S. O'B. Banks, Messrs. Bhagwandas Narotumdas, Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatawadekar, Byramjee Nusserwanjee Servai, C. H. Byrne, the Hon. Mr. Chimanlal Harilal Setalvad, Messrs. J. P. Cornforth, Cowasjee Hormusjee, Cowasji Pestonji, Dominick A. D'Monte, Dinsha Edulji Wacha, Rao Saheb Ellapa Balaram, Messrs. Fardonji Nasarwanji Bisni, Fazalbhai Jumabhai Lalji, Framji Dorabji Divecha, Grattan Geary, Hurkisondas Nurrotumdas, Ibrahim Rahimtula, Jagmohandas Vandrawandas, Jamsedji Kharsedji Kama, Javerilal Umiashankar Yajnik, Karsandas Chubildas, K. M. Shroff, Rai Bahadur Luchmon Singh, Messrs. Manekshah J. Talyarkhan, Mulji Bhawanidas Barbhaya, Moreshwar Gopal Deshmukh, Nanabhai Navroji Katrak, Nanu Narayen Kothare, Nowroji Jehangir Gamadia, Pranjivandas Cullandas, Purshotumdas Munguldas Nathubhoy, Rahimtula Khairaz, Rahimtula Mahomed Sayani, G. W. Roughton, Shivaji Dhurmaji, Sundernath D. Khote, Vandrawandas Purshotumdas, and Dr. Accacio Gabriel Viegas.

MR. BALDWIN LATHAM'S OBJECTIONS TO THE SHONE SYSTEM.

Priority being given to consider his motion of which notice had been given, Dr. Banks proposed : "That the Commissioner be requested to report whether he has taken any steps in regard to obtaining the services of a Consulting Engineer for Drainage, referred to in the Corporation resolution No. 1199, dated 9th of May 1892, and whether Mr. Baldwin Latham was consulted in the matter, and, if so, with what result." In support of the motion Dr. Banks said that his attention was quite recently called to a series of objections raised, he understood, to the Shone system of drainage by Mr. Baldwin Latham, objections which would probably to many members be new, as they were to him. Owing to the very favourable report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government, strenghtened by further evidence, he was of opinion that the Shone system of drainage was well suited to Colaba. But then what about his objections ? Mr. Baldwin Latham, a very eminent expert as a Sanitary Engineer, once, he believed, was consulted by the Municipality, and further, they had already consulted him on the subject not altogether unconnected with drainage, and moreover paid highly for his advice, but what he now told them cost nothing. Mr. Baldwin Latham's objections were these ; first, that it was unsanitary ; secondly, it was unmechanical ; and thirdly it was ruinous financially. His objections were, as he before said, new to him and he (Dr. Banks) felt that for three reasons he could not divest himself of responsibility. As a military surgeon he was concerned in anything which might have anything to do with the health of the troops at Colaba, and secondly, that district was placed in his medical supervision by the Government, whom he had the honour and privilege to serve, and finally his duty as a member of the Corporation to bring the matter before the meeting.

Dr. Katrak seconded the motion.

The Municipal Commissioner said that he did not desire to anticipate his report on the matter, but he would like to say that all the evidence they possessed at present went to show that they had not done unwisely in sanctioning the Shone system at Colaba. He was convinced of its merits and did not think that the slightest apprehension need be entertained as to Colaba suffering from a bad system of sewrage, because he was sure, statistics had established the fact that wherever the Shone system had been introduced the death-rate had been considerably reduced.

Mr. Kursondas Chubildas asked why with all his anxiety for the troops at Colaba Dr. Banks did not bring forward his motion at the time when the Corporation sanctioned the construction of the Shone system.

Dr. Banks replied that unfortunately he was not present when the system was sanctioned, and even if he had been present, he should not have had the slighest idea of bringing forward such a motion. He had br

could say anything it liked without enquiring into the subject. He thought that was the position of affairs on the present occasion. It could be seen that statements made in the Government resolution could never have been made if the person who had made them had properly studied the accounts. That being so, it seemed essential if they desired to uphold the dignity of the Corporation, they ought to see that what was done in future was that they received advice only which would be more likely to be carefully given, than a resolution from whom they did not know. As Mr. Javerilal had pointed out three years ago, there was a general Government resolution in which the dealing of Municipalities in the Presidency were reviewed, but since then the Bombay Municipality had received a special review. The reason for that was that in the mofussil Government had power to control the Municipalities, whereas the Act for the city itself left the Corporation free to manage its own affairs in the matter of finance. That, he maintained, was a position they ought to preserve. It was also a remarkable fact that prior to the last two years there had been no attempt whatever to impose upon the Corporation, the obligation of explaining the accounts to Government. He submitted that what they ought to do was to put a resolute stop to the procedure. Once they conceded the right, he submitted, one of the greatest boons that had been conferred on the city, the right to deal with its own moneys in its own ways, would be entrenched upon. He would remind members of another thing that the Government reports to which they had no opportunity of offering an answer, went up to the Government of India and the Secretary of State and were there filed, and whenever the Corporation wanted a new loan, they turned up the papers to see what the character of the Municipality was as a spending machine. The first thing they would see was a statement that the Bombay Municipality was such a financial machine that it could not explain to the public what its finances were. That showed the Corporation ought to make it perfectly clear that the resolutions they received in a friendly spirit were not such as were given as a matter of right. If they were a matter of right they ought to have an opportunity given of explaining. He did hope that those who had the interests of the Corporation at heart would cordially support the motion.

Dr. Viegas supported the motion and considered no harm would be done by pointing out to Government they had no right to offer criticism If all criticism was to be made welcome, the Chamber of Commerce on the Piece-Goods Merchants would be sending in criticisms which they would be expected to welcome.

Dr. Katrack considered it was their bounden duty to point out the position to Government.

Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtulla considered such criticism was calculated to enlighten members of the Corporation a great deal on Municipal finance and the effect could not be other than good.

Mr. Nanu Khothare supported the original motion and did not think that there was anything in it disrespectful to Government.

Mr. D. E. Wacha did not think it was outside the function of Government to criticise the Corporation's system of finance. They all knew that lawyers when they had a weak case claimed that it was "out side the jurisdiction of the Court," and that was very much the position of Mr. Ronghton's argument. Mr. Wacha considered that when Government gave the Municipality the power it had in its Act, they demanded that it should manage its functions properly, and he considered that even outside the provisions of the Act Government had every right to criticise Municipal finance, and Government could not be challenged whatever lawyers might say to the contrary. It was an insult to tell Government it had no right to critise, and if the Corporation did so Government would be dropping on their toes with another resolution and would teach them how far they could criticise. What other end could Government have in view than the benefit of the Municipality, and, therefore, Government was entirely within its right. Again, in the report of the Standing Committee there were admissions after admissions and what he might call a general surrender, at discretion all along the line, that the Government was right in its criticism. There was a frank admission that the Corporation had mismanaged its loans, and also an admission that the estimates in the Health Department were too high. Generally, the Standing Committee had cried *peccavi*. After such admissions, was not Government justified to the action it had taken? There were certain members who were not doing their duty as to the management of the finances and they ought to have no right to sit there.

Dr. Cowasjee Hermusjee: They are invertebrates, jelly fish (Laughter.)

Mr. Wacha: Yes; they are invertebrates.

The Hon. Mr. Setalwad: Mr. Wacha is not entitled to speak in these terms of his colleagues, and I ask you, Mr. President, to call upon him to withdraw his remarks.

The President: No councillor should use hard words. Of course, he is within his right in expressing an opinion as to any one doing his duty. The other expression should not have been used and I ask Mr. Wacha to withdraw it.

Mr. Wacha: It was Dr. Cowasjee who first used the expression of "invertebrate," and he forced me to use it. Members must not baulk me when I am making a speech of this sort. If he will withdraw his expression, I will do the same.

Dr. Cowasjee: I withdraw my remark.

Mr. Wacha: Dr. Cowasjee Hormusjee, chairman of the Standing Committee, having withdrawn his jelly fish, I am pleased to withdraw mine. (Laughter.)

Continuing Mr. Wacha went on to point out the admissions of the Standing Committee. He said the Corporation had not always in the past managed its finances properly. If they did not endeavour to improve what was the use of their sitting there? He for one would rather withdraw from the Corporation and he had no doubt the Municipal Commissioner would be glad to see him go.

The Commissioner: I, sir, why I don't care in the slightest degree whether you are here or not.

Mr. Wacha: Ah, the Commissioner is always pretending, he takes no notice of Mr. Wacha. But I know how seriously he does take notice of Mr. Wacha.

In concluding his remarks Mr. Wacha said he would be sorry, indeed, if the report went up to Government with the two last paragraphs which were obnoxious, uncalled for, and unwarranted.

At this stage the Corporation adjourned the debate until Monday next, on the motion of Mr. M. J. Talyarkhan.

THE WEATHER.

RAINFALL IN BOMBAY.

	Hyculla.		Esplde.		Fort.		Colaba.	
	In.	Cts.	In.	Cts.	In.	Cts.	In.	Cts.
Previously registered ...	61	77	52	12	50	58	49	25
Monday, August 7th.....	2	68	2	22	2	58	1	89
Total ..	64	45	54	34	53	16	51	14
Total fall to August 7th, 1892	47	50	42	70	40	75	40	67
Total fall to August 7th, 1891	67	25	52	94	51	42	43	74

Rainfall at Byculla registered from 6 p.m. to 6 p.m.; at the Esplanade and Fort from 8 a.m. to 8 a.m.; and at Colaba from 6 a.m. to 6 a.m.

[By Telegraph.]

SIMLA, Aug. 7.

Monday's observations:—The barometer is rising in Burma and north-west of India, but falling elsewhere. Fresh depression is appearing in the north-west angle of the Bay, and general distribution of normal monsoontype winds in westerly Peninsula and central parts of the country; southerly Burma and easterly Northern India. Force fresh west and south India. No rain has fallen in Sind and part of the Ganges Plain; elsewhere rain has fallen, though in Madras and north-west of India as scattered showers. The following are the principal amounts: Diamond Island four and a-half inches, Rawulpindi, three inches, Saugor Island two and three-quarter inches, and Sibsagar, Dhubri, Ludhiana, Bombay, Belgaum, Goa, Sambalpur, Nagpur, Khandwa and Salem over one inch. The temperature has fallen briskly in the Punjab and changed irregularly elsewhere.

Mr. John Hill Twigg, M.A.Dub., late of the Bengal Civil Service, has just published, through Messrs. Effingham, Wilson and Co., Royal Exchange, London, a pamphlet, entitled, "A Plain Statement of the Currency Question, with Reasons why we should restore the Old English Law of Bimetallism." The pamphlet, which is largely a compilation of current literature, is procurable in Melbourne, Montreal, Sydney, New York, Bombay, and Hongkong.

To commemorate the raising of their regiment in 1793, the officers of the 2nd Bn. South Staffordshire Regt. have had a beautiful centre-piece made. It consists of a massive silver two-handled cup, round which is depicted in high relief two scenes, the soldiers lying under their guns at the battle of Ferozeshah, and also at the battle of Ulundí. The cup is surmounted with a figure of Viceroy, and at its base are statuettes of four officers in silver, showing the different uniforms of the regiment during the past 100 years.

To Cure Skin Diseases.—Sulpholine Lotions quickly drives away Eruptions, Pimples, Blotches, Redness, Eczema, Acne, Disfigurements, Roughness and Scurf, &c., leaving a clear, spotless Skin and beautiful Complexion. Sulpholine is a necessity for the Skin, especially in hot climates. Made in London. Sold everywhere in one Shilling Bottles.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Replying to Lord Lamington, in the House of Lords on the 17th ultimo, the Earl of Rosebery said: I think it would be for the convenience of the House, as this is a matter of some importance, that I should read a written answer on the subject. In order to consider justly and dispassionately the present position of affairs between France and Siam it is necessary to keep distinct several questions which from the course of events have become intermingled. But it is right to premise that perhaps the main difficulty in forming any conclusion on these questions lies in obtaining clear and definite information, and in the absence of such information her Majesty's Government are not prepared to offer any decided opinion as to the merits of the various points at issue. There are, first of all, certain claims by the French Government for compensation for losses suffered by some French merchants and travellers in consequence of the action of Siamese officials. These are not of large amount, but the French Government appear to have laid stress on these being satisfied as a preliminary to negotiations on more important matters, while the Siamese Government have made difficulties and objections which have not yet been withdrawn. There is, secondly, the question of frontier between France and Siam in or adjacent to the Mekong valley. This is a question of a complicated character, on which her Majesty's Government have not sufficient information to pronounce a definite opinion, and in which—provided it be kept within certain limits, and do not assume such proportions as to affect the independence and integrity of the Siamese kingdom—Great Britain is not directly interested. There is, thirdly, the question of the capture of a French officer, Captain Thoreux, and the alleged murder of another, with some Annamite soldiers. It is reported in the papers this morning that Captain Thoreux, whose liberation was promised by the Siamese Government some time ago, has now been actually conveyed into French territory and surrendered. In regard to the other incident, the facts are contested, and it is not known what the demands of the French Government may be. Fourthly, there is the forcible ascent of the Menam by two French gun vessels against the opposition of the Siamese authorities. In regard to this act we are not at present in possession of all the facts, the information received by her Majesty's Government being little, if at all, more than that which has appeared in the public press. But there is reason to believe that it was contrary to the directions of the French Government and to the expressed wish of the French representative at Bangkok. It is absolutely necessary to await more detailed information before an opinion can be pronounced on the merits of the question. Our last advices from Paris, however, state that the French commanders positively assert that they were subjected to an unprovoked fire in the exercise of their undoubted right to ascend as far as Paknam. Fifthly, there is the question of the protection of British subjects and property and those of other European Powers at Bangkok. Her Majesty's Government have for sometime past been making provision for this, and they are assured by the naval authorities that the arrangements are complete and the force sufficient. Should more ships be required they will be immediately available. Finally, there is the question of the independence and integrity of Siam. Her Majesty's Government are fully sensible that this is a subject of grave importance to the British and more especially to the British Indian Empire, but the French Government declare themselves to be not less anxious than ourselves to maintain and respect that independence and integrity. Her Majesty's Government are fully alive to their responsibilities in this matter, and they will not lose any opportunity which may present itself of facilitating a satisfactory solution.

Mr. Curzon said that in consequence of the important and serious news that had appeared in the papers that morning concerning the advance of a portion of the French fleet up the river Menam to Bangkok and of the alleged commencement of hostilities between France and Siam, he wished to ask the Government whether they could give the House any information on the matter. He ventured to think it would tend to allay public anxiety if the Prime Minister could find it possible to make a statement on the question during the course of the afternoon. (Hear, hear.)—Sir G. Baden-Powell said he had given private notice that he intended to put a question on the subject.—Mr. Gladstone said he saw no reason why the House should not be at once put in possession of the information then in the hands of the Government. The information sent him from the Foreign Office during the last quarter of an hour was very incomplete, and of course he could not go beyond it. The Foreign Office had heard that French vessels has ascended the Menam river, but was not aware that they were threatening hostilities. It would consequently be necessary to defer any further statement on the point until her Majesty's Government had received the explanation which they were at present expecting from the Government of France. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. Curzon said the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in answer to a question recently put to him on the matter, stated that the French Government had given an assurance that any movement of their fleet in the direction of Bangkok would be communicated beforehand to her Majesty's Government. He wished to know whether any such intimation had been given.—Mr. Gladstone said he had heard nothing of any intimation of that kind, but at the same time the hon. member and the House might rely upon it that any pledge given by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in France would be scrupulously kept. (Hear, hear.)

Later in the evening the Chancellor of the Exchequer said: The Prime Minister stated at the beginning of business to-day that if any further information was received with regard to Siam it should be communicated to the House. It would probably be convenient to communicate now the following information from the Foreign Office.

"From the reports received from her Majesty's Minister at Bangkok and from the commander of the British gunboat at present stationed there, it appears that two French gunboats forced their way yesterday evening up the river against the opposition of the Siamese authorities, and, as we are informed, against the desire of the French Minister and anchored off the French Legation. Her Majesty's Government are disposed to believe that this action was taken by the French naval officers without the authority of their Government, as it does not appear to be in accordance with the repeated assurances from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs that her Majesty's Government should receive previous notice of any fresh action which might be decided upon. But they must await the explanations which they will no doubt receive from Paris, and further reports as to the development of events at Bangkok, before they can form or express any definite opinion on what has occurred."

Mr. Balfour intimated that he would address a further question to the Government on the subject on the following Monday, when it might be possible to give more information.

STATEMENT IN THE COMMONS.

In the Commons on the 17th ultimo Sir E. Grey read the statement made in the House of Lords by Lord Rosebery prefacing the same by the following remarks: I am informed that there is a desire on the part of the House that there should be a discussion to-day on the difficulties which at present exist between France and Siam, especially as regards the situation at Bangkok. I am told that there was an intention to move the adjournment of the House in order to bring about a discussion on the subject. No doubt the situation is a serious one, as the House was informed last Friday, when shots had been fired; but I am hapy to be able to say that, since that demonstration of hostilities, no further hostilities have taken place, and matters remain in suspense. I am sure it will be the desire of the whole House that, while nothing should be omitted on our part to watch and guard most closely the British interests that are involved, also nothing should be done on our part which should aggravate the situation in any way. (Hear, hear.) At the present time there is every possibility that the situation will end in a peaceful solution, and that there may be no further outbreak of hostilities. I am sure the House will be anxious that at this particular moment, while matters are still in suspense, nothing should be said in this House which could possibly aggravate the situation.—Mr. Curzon said that, having heard the statement made by the Under Foreign Secretary, he proposed to refrain from taking any step to call the attention of the House to the subject that day. (Hear, hear.)

On Thursday, July 20, Sir E. Grey, replaying to Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Atherley-Jones, and Mr. Curzon, said: The information that the French gunboats passed up the Menam river on Thursday, July 13, and that shots were exchanged between them and the forts, attended with loss of life, is undoubtedly accurate. As to the circumstances under which the encounter took place the evidence is conflicting. It is believed that assurances had been previously given by the French Minister at Bangkok to the Siamese Government that the gun boats would remain outside the bar. It is asserted, on the other hand, that the French gunboats, whilst outside the bar, were subjected to an unprovoked fire from the Siamese forts, and this led to the subsequent fighting. The information in possession of her Majesty's Government is not sufficiently precise to enable us to form a conclusion as to the merits of the conflict. Article 15 of the Treaty of 1856 provides that French ships shall be allowed to enter the Menam, but in order to ascend to Bangkok, notice must be given to the Siamese Government, and arrangements must be made as to the spot where they shall anchor. Her Majesty's Government received no notification prior to the entry of the French gunboats. They were, however, informed by the French Government that these two vessels would remain outside the bar, and no doubt such was the intention of the French Government. The statistics as to the tonnage are correct. The French gunboats are anchored off Bangkok. There are three French and two British gunboats. It is understood that an ultimatum has been sent by the French Government, but we are not in a position to make any announcement as to its terms. We are making inquiries on the subject, and as soon as we are able to do so, we will give the information to the House. I may add that the only part of the ultimatum which concerns her Majesty's Government is that which relates to territorial arrangements. Her Majesty's Government have determined to send Lord Dufferin at once to Paris in order to exchange views in an amicable spirit with regard to certain points which appear to require such an exchange of views.

A semi-official note published in Paris on July 17, contradicted the report that the French Government had disavowed the action taken by Admiral Humann in forcing his way up the Menam River. In the French Chamber, on July 18, M. Develle. the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in reply to questions, made a lengthy statement with respect to events in Siam. Besides certain injuries done to French citizens, the Siamese Government had made for many years past encroachments on Annam and Cambodia. The Government had taken measures to repel these encrochments, which were completely successful, and ended in the recovery of 300 miles of territory.

"It would" (he said) "have been possible to address an ultimatum to the King of Siam, but we should not have been able to limit the consequences of such action on our part. An attack on Bangkok might bring about a revolution in this city and necessitate its occupation by French troops for the maintenance of order, and this might lead to the intervention of other Powers. Being resolved that no one shall interfere with Siamese independence, which we for our part do not desire to infringe, we had recourse to other measures. We organised columns which have succeeded in driving the Siamese back to the right bank of the Mekong. Two incidents only have occurred, the first of which was the capture of Captain Thoreux. This led the Government immediately to advise M. Pavie to leave Bangkok unless that officer was set at liberty, similar language being addressed to the Siamese Minister in Paris. Captain Thoreux was eventually surrendered, after having been detained for a perhaps unnecessarily long time in the Laos district. The second incident was the murder of M. Grosgurin. Concerning this incident the Siamese Government promised reparation, and on its part the French Government had despatched M. Le Myre de Vilers a week ago last Saturday to the scene of the occurrence, where his name was held in great respect. Prior to that gentleman's arrival at his destination occurred the event of the 13th inst."

M. Develle complained that language unworthy of the representatives of France had been attributed to him, and that he therefore desired to make an explanation on the subject. Lord Rosebery had, he stated, given notice in March last that he had been appealed to in the matter of the Mekong River by the Siamese representative in London, to which he (Lord Rosebery) had replied that the incident did not concern Great Britain, and Lord Dufferin had expressed himself in similar terms concerning the matter in Paris. Since then, the newspapers having alluded to the possibility of a French attack on Bangkok, the British Government had inquired as to France's intentions in Siam, to which the French Government had replied that it was not their intention to bombard Bangkok, but that, should such a measure become necessary, due notice would be given to the British Government, so as to enable them to take proper precautions for the protection of British subjects. Consequent upon the statements made by Sir E. Grey in the House of Commons announcing the despatch of British gunboats to Bangkok, he had sent a despatch to London demanding the reason of this intervention of the British Government and of the support they were giving to Siam. The Minister then read out the despatch, and its tenor evidently met with the approval of the House, as members loudly cheered when M. Develle had finished reading. Continuing, the speaker said: "The conduct of the Siamese Government will not permit us to exercise further patience. If the just reparation demanded for the assassination of Inspector Grosgurin and for the violation of the treaty of 1856 is not granted the French Government will take the necessary measures." The Minister added that the Chamber might rely upon the prudence and firmness of the Government. An Order of the Day, expressing complete confidence in the Government, was unanimously passed, M. Develle being loudly cheered at the conclusion of his speech.—The *Times* Paris correspondent telegraphed on July 18 that the Cabinet that day resolved to present to Siam an ultimatum, demanding the cession of the left bank of the Mekong from the Chinese frontier to the Kratieh, the retrocession of Battambong and Angkor, with other demands. The demands made by France, in an ultimatum sent on July 19 to the Siamese Government, which is allowed forty-eight hours to consider its reply, require that all the territory on the left bank of the Mekong shall be evacuated, that the islands shall be acknowledged to belong to France, and that an indemnity of 3,000,000f. (about £120,000) shall be paid, apart from compensation to injured individuals. If the Siamese Government declines compliance, a blockade of Bangkok is to be established; if it accepts the principle of the French demands, the surrender of a fort or a safe anchorage will be required, pending the conclusion of the negotiations. The Paris papers generally approve M. Develle's declaration in the Chamber.

In Paris there is a good deal of excitement, not unmixed, to judge from some of the newspapers, with a feeling of bitter irritation against Great Britain for having, as alleged, "urged the Siamese to attack the French."

As showing the interests of England in Siam, it may be stated that the British flag waves over the greater number of the ships in the Menam, then come the Siamese flag and that of Germany. The direct commerce of France with Siam is nil.

On receipt of the news of the entry in the Bankok explnations were asked for in the House of Commons which are printed in our report, and on July 14 the following semi-official Note was published in Paris:—

"Sir Edward Grey having announced in the House of Commons that the British Government was sending several vessels to Bangkok, the French Government being aware that ships belonging to other nations were to be sent, informed the Siamese Government on the 8th inst. of its intention to increase its own naval force on the Menam, where the only protection for French subject was that afforded by the gunboat Le Lutin. Article XV. of the Treaty of 1856 formally confers upon France the light of passage up the river. It runs as follows:—'French war vessels will be allowed to enter the river and anchor at Paknam. To ascend as far as Bangkok they will have to give notice to the Siamese authorities, and come to an agreement with them regarding the place of anchoring.' As, however, no other British vessels had enterred the Menam, the Siamese Government having objected to the presence of more than one foreign vessels off Bangkok, the French Government, while reserving the formal rights given them by the Treaty of 1856, sent instructions to Admiral Humann not to cross the bar of the Menam, and informed the Siamese Government of these instructions. The order not having been received in time, the Inconstant and Comete appeared on the 13th inst at the mouth of the Menam, and were fired at by the forts and by six Siamese war vessels. We lost two sailors. Nevertheless, the two vessels pursued their course, and are now anchored before Bangkok."

The *Temps* has now begun to receive news from a special correspondent at Saignon. The following telegram to that paper is dated July 16, 2 p.m., and is corroborated by later Havas telegrams:—

Important news comes from Khong. For some time the Siamese have been reinforcing the troops massed on both banks of the Mekong to prevent the passage of the river gunboats shortly to arrive from France. They have constructed forts, notably on the left bank of the river; they have tried to resume the blockade of the forces installed in the isle of Khong. To prevent this investment Captain Villers, who commands the posts of the island of Khong, attaked on Friday the forts of Don-Thane and Tap-Hum, situated on the left bank. These forts were captured after a lively fight. In the redoubt were found a number of Siamese killed or wounded. Thirty-three men were made prisoners, and fifty muskets and one cannon were captured. We had an Annamite sharpshooter killed and five wounded. The operations continue. It will be necessary to occupy the town of Khong, the base of the Siamese operations, if we are to assure the passage of the gunboats and the security of navigation.

Such, according to the *Temps* correspondent, was the state of affairs on the Lower Mekong. On the Upper Mekong a similar state of things existed according to the following telegram received by M. Delcasse from the Governor of French Indo-China, dated Hanoi, July 16:—

A Siamese troop attacked on July, 5, at Naka on the left bank of the Mekong, above Houtten, a reconnoitring party of Annamite militia. The Siamese were repulsed with heavy loss. On our side only one Annamite was killed. This check to the Siamese has produced an excellent impression on the Laos tribes, which everywhere side with us.

In accordance with instructions received, the Inconstant and the Comete left Saigon on the 11th in the morning *en route* for Bangkok, where they were to complete our naval forces. By order of the Siamese Government, no pilot was allowed on board a French man-of-war without a formal order from the authorities of the harbour of Bangkok. Consequently Admiral Humann wished to profit by the departure of the mail boat, the Jean Baptiste Say, of the Messageries River Company of Cochin China, which plies regularly between Saigon and Bangkok, to guide his ships into the channel. On July 13, at high tide, the French war vessels entered the Straits of Menam behind the Jean Baptiste Say. The latter in passing the bar was hit in the machinery. In order to make the necessary repairs Captain Gicquel immediately grounded his boat, while the Inconstant and the Comete pursued their course to Paknam, where the engagement took place with the forts and the Siamese ships which were defending the entrance of the Menam. The Siamese immediately attacked the Jean Baptiste Say. The plugs were opened, and the cargo was pillaged while the ship sank. The crew were maltreated, but succeeded in taking to the boats and in getting safe and sound to Bangkok.

DECLARATION IN THE FRENCH CHAMBER.

M. Develle, the French Minister of Foreign Affair, made an important statement on Tuesday in the French Chamber (of which we have received the full text throuh Reuter's agency) in reply to an interpellation by M. Camille Dreyfus with regard to the policy of France in reference to the complications which have arisen in Siam. Before defining the attitude of France towards the Siamese Government M. Develle referred to the origin of the present difficulties, which he said were due to encroachments on the frontiers of Tonquin and Annam, which were under the French protectorate. France claimed the left bank of the Mekong as the limit of her Indo-Chinese possessions, and they resolved to retake it and enforce their rights in that region. They might have done this by an attack upon Bangkok, but they had no desire to encroach upon the independence of Siam. They preferred to despatch troops from Saigon and drive back the Siamese posts. In this they had met with no resistance, and they had regained possession of a territory of nearly 500 kilometres.

Nevertheless, in the course of the operations, two incidents occurrrd—two grave incidents. I revert to them in order to show the attiude pursued by the Government. At Khone the Siamese, who had evacuated the island, attempted the following morning to surprise the garrison, and captured Caymon Thoreaux and a number of Annamites who were escorting a convoy. Immediately I heard of this occurrence I requested M. Pavie to infrom the Siamese Court that if Captain Thoreaux and the Annamites were not surrendered he was instructed to leave Bangkok forthwith, and that meanwhile the Government would consider the measures to be taken. At the same time I brought the matter to the notice of the Siamese Minister in Paris, and requested him to inform his Government that it was indispensable that Captain Thoreaux should be deliverd up, and that otherwise he must prepare to leave Paris immediately. The Siamese Court gave us the most formal assurances in regard to the incident, and I must admit that Captain Thoreaux appears to have spent rather too long a time in Laos and Siam. (Murmurs.) However, to judge by certain despatches which reached the Government a few days ago, he has now been handed over to the French authorities. But then another incident occurred, an alleged or probable incident—as was said in other quarters—(hear, hear)—but unfortunately only too true. M. Grosgurin, one of the Government inspectors, who was very ill, was assassinated in a cowardly manner in his bed. The detachment of troops which formed his escort were also massacred, and by whose orders? By the orders of the same Siamese Mandarin whom M. Grosgurin had been ordered to escort to the frontier on the Mekong river in order to protect him from the people, who were ready to wreak their vengeance upon him owing to his exactions and acts of cruelty. The Siamese Government did not dare to contest the fact of this atrocious act, but asked that time might be allowed for inquiries to be made, at the same time declaring that, should the circumstances prove to be as stated, it was ready to grant France complete satisfaction.

FRENCH NEGOTIATIONS WITH ENGLAND.

The French Government thereupon determined to open negotiations, and for that purpose M. Le Myre de Vilers left Paris for Bangkok. M. Develle then went on to refer to the events of the 13th July, on the Menam. He continued:—

I will tell you more, especially as I have been made to play such a strange part throughout this affair, and have been made to assume towards the British Government an attitude so humble, so docile, and so unworthy of a representative of France. (Loud applause.) For this reason I am anxious to explain myself completely and without reserve. (Cries of "Go on!") I have been asked what undertakings I gave to the British Government. The latter even asked me to give any undertaking whatever. (Interruption on the Right and a voice, "That would have been the finis!") On the contrary, as long ago as March 9 last, Lord Rosebery declared to M. Waddington, quite spontaneously, that he had received the evening before a visit from the Siamese Minister in London, who had complained of the encorchments of France on the Mekong. Lord Rosebery replied that he had nothing to do with the matter. Lord Dufferin did me the honour to come and see me at the Quai d'Orsay and made the following statement in the most open and unreserved manner:—"I am instructed by my Government to tell you that in the conflict in which you are engaged with Siam in regard to your frontiers, you will never find England in any way before you." (Bravo.) I thanked Lord Dufferin for his communication, and told him that the attitude of Great Britain was all the more natural since we had no istention of threatening the independence of Siam, and that we were merely taking the measures necessary to assure the safety of possessions for which we had undergone great sacrifices both in men and money. ("Bravo! Bravo!")

FALSE RUMOURS IN THE FRENCH PRESS.

The Press, M. Develle said, had incurred some responsiblity in the matter by publishing the news that France was about to bombard Bangkok, and thus exciting public feelling in England, Germany, and Holland, and among others who had interests in Siam. He had, however, told the Ambassrdors to disregard these reports. He said:—

I again assure you that we have no intention either to bombard or attack Bangkok, and that had we been compelled to have recourse to that extremity you would have been notified in time, and in such a manner as to enable you to take the necessary measures for the protection of your subjects. I was the more authorised to speak in such terms as, in accordance with explanations which I have just given you, the decision to make an attack on Bangkok, necessitating, as it would have done, the despatch of reinforcements, would have compelled us to consult Parliament and to ask its assent and co-operation. This was the true sense and bearing of the language I employed, and we were no more called upon to study the convenience of the British Government with regard to the movements of our fleet than was the latter to study the convenience of France. Did it do so? Was it not solely through the debates in the British Parliament that I heard of the despatch of British gunboats to Siam? It was on June 29 that Sir Edward Grey, replying to an interpellation, declared that the British Government did not know what France was doing in Siam, but that it was necessary to think of the protection of British subjects, that he had sent a gunboat, that another was about to follow, and that a third was in readiness to join the first two. (Laughter.)

SIR E. GREY'S STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Immediately on receipt of the intelligence M. Develle said he addressed the following despatch to the French Charge d'Affaires in London:—

In view of the declarations made by Sir Edward Grey in the House of Commons, I think it necessary that you should, as soon as possible, obtain au explanation from Lord Rosebery on the subject of affairs in Siam. You will remind his lordship that we have found it necessary to adopt measures for putting a stop to the continual encroachments on the part of the Siamese to the detriment of Annam and Cambodia. Our action, however, is of a strictly pacific character. In accordance with the injunctions sent to them by the agents of the Government of the protectorate, the Siamese are evacuating, without resistance, most of the posts which they had established on the left bank of the Mekong. But while the Court of Bangkok assured us of its desire to arrive at an amicable solution of the territorial questions now pending a detachment of French troops stationed in the island of Khone was attacked by Siamese troops, and Captain Thoreaux was taken prisoner. Finally, only a short time ago, the Siamese Mandarin, Kausmon, treacherously assassinated one of our agents who had been charged to conduct him to the Mekong, and to protect him against the population on the left bank, and ordered the massacre of the soldiers forming the escort. The urgent representations made by our rapresentative at Bangkok to obain reparation for these acts, which constitute the gravest violation of the right of nations, have up to the present remained without effect. In view of this situation, the Government of the Queen will understand that we cannot postpone our action any longer, and that if we do not receive satisfaction within a short period we shall find ourselves under the necessity of consulting as to the measures to be taken to induce the Court of Bangkok to respect our legitimate claims. It is unfortunately to be feared that Siam sees in the statements which have been made in the British Parliament, and notably that referring to the despatch of Bitish vessels to Bangkok, and encouragement to continue her resistance—(hear, hear)—and that the result thereby obtained by the Cabinet of St. James's will be contrary to that which it had intended. You will not conceal from Lord Rosebery the surprise which the language used by Sir Edward Grey has caused us, since, according to his own statement and those of Lord Dufferin, we were justified in believing that the Government of the Queen intended to hold completely aloof from the dispute which has arisen between us and Siam. (Cheers.)

FOREIGN WAR-SHIPS AT BANGKOK.

Lord Rosebery replied that the British ships had not been sent with the object of lending assistance to the Siamese, but for the protection of British subjects. Under these circumstances the French Government thought it right to adopt a similar course, and informed the Siamese Government that vessels would be sent to join the *Lutin* and that no hostilities would take place unless the French ships were attacked. The Siamese Government replied that they could not allow any single Power to be represented by more than one vessel. Consequently the French ships were instructed not to cross the bar pending further orders. The telegram, however, did not arrive in time.

The Inconstant and Comete, which left Saigon on July 10, arrived on the evening of the 13th at the bar of the Menam. They were received with the fire from the Siamese forts and vessels, but, with admirable audacity and intrepidity, passed obstacles and torpedo boats, and, being unable to stop at Paknam, anchored at Bangkok. (Repeated applause.) However, the Siamese Government knew M. Pavie had informed them with what pacific intentions our ships had been sent, and also knew the Siamese Minister in Paris had telegraphed to them that we had given orders to our ships not to go beyond the bar, and that consequently if they entered the river in the evening they would leave it again next morning. They knew that the treaty of 1856 had not been denounced, and that it compelled them to permit our ships to ascend the river as far as Paknam, and yet they directed that our vessels should be received with cannon-shot, and the order was carried out without previous notice or challenge of any kind.

WHAT FRANCE DEMANDS.

In this matter, said M. Develle, the French officers were the victims of an outrage. He then went on to refer to the attack on the French merchant vessel, Jean Baptiste Say, which was pillaged, and its crew ill-treated. He concluded:—

That is the situation which we have to face. What is our duty? I will tell you. The acts of the Siamese Government prevent us from exercising patience any longer. (Loud applause.) We must know without delay if our legitimate claims are accepted by them, and if they are prepared to make effective reparation for the injury caused to our fellow-countrymen, and to give us satisfaction for the assassination of M. Grosgurin and the formal violation of the treaty of 1856. (Hear, hear.) That is the least—(hear, hear)—which the dignity of France can exact, and which our interest in Indo-China can also require. The preservation of our empire in Indo-China has been the sole object of our action in regard to Siam. We have never wished to attack its independence; but we have the right of obtaining the most complete guarantees of the safety and integrity of our possessions and the formal recognition of our rights. This legitimate satisfaction has not been afforded. The Government ought to take action accordingly. I trust gentlemen, that in this matter you have full confidence in our prudence and firmness. (Prolonged applause.)

AN ULTIMATUM.

A telegram from Paris says:—

The Cabinet Council resolved on sending an ultimatum to Siam, which, it is believed, demands the retrocession of Battambong and Angkor to Cambodia, an indemnity for the Khong victims, the immediate appointment of a frontier commission, and the cession of the left bank of the Mekong from the Chinese frontier to the Kratieh. The ultimatum is to be accepted within twenty-four hours.

This resolution it will be observed preceded the explanations of M. Develle in the Chamber. But on July 19 the *Times* correspondent sent the following amended version:—

The ultimatum despatched to the Siamese Government yesterday demands an indemnity of about three millions for France, special indemnities for Inspector Grosgurin's family, for the owners of the *Jean Baptiste Say*, and for the death, wounding, or arrest of French citizens, together with the abandonment of the left bank of the Mekong, including the islands. Forty-eight hours are allowed for an answer.

Mr. Curzon, M.P., writes to the *Times*:—

1. The ultimatum demands the cession to France, not merely of the strip of territory (now in dispute, and over which Annamite troops and French officers have lately been marauding) between the middle Mekong and the Annamite border mountains, but of the entire left bank of the river from the Chinese frontier in the extreme north to Kratieh on the south. In other words, it would hand over to France an immense block of territory in the two great bends of the upper river, over which neither Annam nor Tonquin have ever exercised or claimed to exercise sovereign control, and which not even the French have hitherto claimed; it would involve the seizure of the Laotian principality of Luang Prabang, which for over a century and a half has recognised Siamese suzerainty; and it would bring French territory on the Upper Mekong into absolute juxtaposition with the British protected Shan States that fell to this country as part of the heritage of Upper Burma, and which extend not merely up to but across the Mekong.

Such a transfer of ownership would therefore not merely bisect Siam, but it would entail the very result which the British and French Governments alike deprecate—viz., a common frontier between the two European Powers in Indo-China—while it would effectively close the door to the trade of South-West China, which it has been the consistent and legitimate ambition of British diplomacy to keep open to our English and Indian merchants.

That Lord Rosebery, whose handling of the entire question up to this point has possessed the rare merit of satisfying not merely both parties in England, but the French Government also, is fully alive to the seriousness of such an issue is obvious from the words of his own memorandum read out in both Houses on Monday, in which his alleged indifference to French action on the Mekong, on which the French statesmen lay so much stress, is subject to very distinct limitations both of geographical area and of political consequence.

2. The ultimatum demands the retrocession to Cambodia of the provinces of Battambong and Angkor, which lie to the north and west and south of the great lake of Talay (or Toole) Sap, at a distance of ten to twelve short marches from Bangkok. These provinces were wrested from Cambodia by Siam in war at the end of last century, and have remained in Siamese possession ever since. Moreover, in the Franco-Siamese Treaty of 1867 the Siamese ownership of them was formally and officially recognised by France in return for the renunciation by Siam of her traditional suzerainty over Cambodia, the French simultaneously undertaking at no time to seize and incorporate that kingdom in Cochin China. If the terms of the ultimatum, therefore, be true, the French now propose both to abrogate their own treaty and rob Siam of a further large and lucrative slice, and to install themselves—for since 1884 Cambodia is even more French than Annam—in the very centre of the Siamese dominions, and within easy striking distance of the capital.

Were this true, it would be difficult to comprehend either what M. Develle's assurances to Lord Rosebery, thrice repeated in his speech, that he has no intention of threatening the independence or integrity of Siam, can mean, or what the Frontier Commission which it is proposed to appoint would find to do, seeing that its labours would already have been anticipated by intimidation.

There has been no moment since this controversy began when a more vigilant watch required to be kept upon passing events, or when British interests in Siam, which it is as impossible to deny as French counter interests are difficult to invent, stood in greater jeopardy. I trust that the contents of the ultimatum may have been misrepresented or will be promptly disavowed. But at least let public opinion in England not be taken unawares.

The *Times* commented on the situation in the following terms:—

The amended version of the French ultimatum which we publish this morning is, in some important particulars, satisfactory as showing that M. Develle's assurances are seriously meant. The time given for the Siamese answer is extended from twenty-four hours to forty-eight, and we trust the Court of Siam, if it intends to concede the substance of the French demands, will not be tempted to indulge in the dangerous Oriental luxury of procrastination. It appears that, in view of the supposed inability of Siam to meet these demands immediately, France will ask to have assigned to her, while they remain unpaid, the revenues derived from the fisheries of Lake Tonle-Sap carried on by the inhabitants of the provinces of Battambong and Angkor bordering on that lake. This is very different from the positive demand for the cession of those provinces which was rumoured and on which Mr. George Curzon comments in a letter we published this morning. We are not able to agree altogether with Mr. Curzon's arguments and conclusions. It does not follow that, though France is in the wrong in her method of dealing with Siam, it is the duty of this country to interfere, unless British interests are seriously and directly threatened. But if it were true that France had menaced Bangkok with bombardment or even blockade unless two provinces were surrendered to her, about which there had been no frontier dispute and to

THE VICTORIA DISASTER.

OPENING OF THE COURT-MARTIAL.

THE court-martial on Captain the Hon. Maurice Bourke and the other survivors of Her Majesty's battle-ship Victoria, which sank off Tripoli on June 23, in consequence of collision with Her Majesty's battleship Camperdown, was opened at Malta on Monday, July 17. The trial was conducted on board H.M.S. Hibernia, an old wooden three-decker lying in the harbour, which is used both as the Admiral Superintendent's flagship and as a hulk for ships' companies. The survivors of the Victoria are technically prisoners. They were taken on board the Hibernia shortly after nine o'clock, and were mustered on the main deck. The Court, which sat on the poop deck under canvas awnings—was on meeting constituted as follows:—Admiral Sir M. Culme-Seymour (Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Squadron), president; Rear Admiral Tracey (Superintendent of Malta Dockyard), Captain Lake (senior officer at Gibraltar), Captain Aldrich (H.M.S. Hawke), Captain Johnstone (H.M.S. Camperdown), Captain Karslake (H.M.S. Colossus), Captain Hammick (H.M.S. Triumph), Captain Acland (H.M.S. Edgar), and Captain Jeffreys (H.M.S Hood). All the members of the Court, being officers, sat in their order of seniority. The prosecution was conducted by Captain A. L. Winsloe, whilst Mr. Rickard, secretary of Admiral Culme-Seymour, acted as Judge-Advocate. Captain Bourke, who represented all the other prisoners was accommodated with a chair at the lower corner of the table, his sword, in accordance with custom, being laid on the table crosswise. Meanwhile the other survivors were ordered to the poop deck, where they were mustered in a space which had been roped off for the purpose. The names of the survivors were read over, and all replied with the exception of three or four who are still in hospital.

The letter from the Admiralty ordering the court-martial having been read, Captain Bourke was asked whether he objected to any members of the Court.

He replied: "I object to Captain Johnstone and Captain Acland, on the ground that they were present at the time of the accident and have been summoned as witnesses for the prosecution as to the facts connected with the accident."

The Court, after deliberation in private, allowed both objections, and Captain Johnstone and Captain Acland accordingly retired, their places being taken by Captain Langley (H.M.S. Arethusa) and Captain Custance (H.M.S. Phaeton).

Captain Bourke, however, again interposed, saying "I object to Captain Custance on the same ground as before.

This further objection was also allowed by the Court, and the vacant place was taken by Captain Robinson (H.M.S. Trafalgar), to whom no exception was taken.

The Court was then sworn.

Mr. Rickard read the despatch sent to the Admiralty after the disaster by Rear Admiral Markham, commanding the Camperdown, together with the reports of other officers forwarded at the same time, and which have already been made public. A subsequent letter from Rear Admiral Markham, dated July 1, H.M.S. Nile, Tripoli, was also read. It contained the following additional facts not mentioned in the Admiral's first reports:—

"In my first report," the letter ran, "the time of the signal being made from the Victoria to turn 16 points was given as 3-28 p.m. I should have stated that this was about the time of the signal being hauled down. It was hoisted at about 3-24 p.m. In reply to the signal made from the Commander-in-Chief to me by semaphore "What are you waiting for?" I replied that I did not quite understand the signal. While the Camperdown was in the act of signal to turn 16 ponts at the dip the Victoria showed Camperdown pennants as an indication that an acknowledgment of the signal was immediately required." The letter concluded with a table showing the order of the ships at the time of the catastrophe.

The following additional letter addressed by Captain Johnstone, H.M.S. Camperdown, to the senior officer at Malta, was also read to the Court:—"In reference to the lamentable collision which took place between this ship and H.M.S. Victoria on the 22nd ult., it is my painful duty to report to you some particular circumstances as follows:—First, the fleet was in two divisions in line ahead, the columns disposed abeam to port, the Victoria leading the starboard division and the Camperdown the port division. The columns were in at six cables apart and the ships were in column at two cables. Secondly, the signal having been made for the columns to turn 16 points inwards, the helms were put over and the Victoria and the Camperdown turned towards one another. When the collision seemed imminent Admiral Markham gave the order, 'Fult speed astern starboard engine,' and then 'Full speed astern both engines,' the orders following one another quickly. The telegraphs were put over, and I am convinced that, according to my custom, I saw the telegraphs properly placed and the engine indicators moving, after which I turned for a moment to give orders as to the work that was going on about the collision stations. Thirdly, on reaching the engine-room register, however, I found to my astonishment that only three-quarters speed astern was recorded as having been then given. From this investigation I have made I fear that there is little doubt that the engines on both sides were actually put to three-quarters speed only astern, and not to full speed, at the time of the collision. I can only conclude that the telegraphs did not show quite true, and were consequently misread in the engine-room. The different statements which I have collected show discrepancies, due no doubt to the suddenness of the affair and the rapid succession of events, but the fact, I believe, remains as I have stated it. I can only trust that in view of the very short time in which everything occurred the effect of the difference of speed on the ultimate result was not appreciable. Fourthly, the engine-room register did not, in the usual course of events, come before me until the Thursday following the collision, and when I was on the point of sailing in this ship from Tripoli, and the fact of my not having mentioned the subject to the Fleet Engineer, I having no suspicion of the actual state of the case, accounts for my remaining in ignorance. I now report the matter at the earliest possible moment."

CAPTAIN BOURKE'S EVIDENCE.

Captain Bourke, who was next sworn, was cautioned that he was not bound to give any evidence likely to criminate himself. He said that the letters which had been read furnished a true statement of the sinking of the Victoria.

The Prosecutor: Have you any complaint to make against any of the surviving officers and ship's company as to their conduct on that ship?

Captain Bourke: None.

The Prosecutor (addressing the other survivors): Officers and men of the Victoria have you, or any of you, anything to object to in the narrative read, or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man on the occasion of the loss of the Victoria.

Officers and men in chorus: Nothing.

In reply to the question whether he had anything to add to his statement before the Court, dated June 22, Captain Bourke, after a few moments' reflection, said "No general statement. I understand there might be some question as to the statement made by me in my letter of June 22 about what the chief engineer told me when I was in the main passage. I stated then that he told me that as far as he could make out there was no water abaft the foremost boiler-room. That was intended to convey the impression that there was no water abaft the fore end of the foremost boiler-room. I were using the four foremost boilers, and therefore if water had flowed into the foremost boiler-room it must have been known to the chief engineer, as the fires would have been quickly put out. But to the best of my belief there was no water in the foremost boiler-room bulkhead."

The Prosecutor: Can you produce the ship's log, the engine-room register, or the signal log?

Captain Bourke: No.

The Prosecutor: When on the 22nd of June, in the Admiral's cabin, at about ten minutes past two, the Staff Commander first suggested that eight cables would be a better distance to form up in columns than six, did you personally say anything to the Admiral as to the distance between the columns?

Captain Bourke: No.

After the Staff Commander went on deck did you remain in the cabin?

Yes. The Admiral, ringing his bell for an orderly, sent for the flag lieutenant. The flag lieutenant came down, and the Admiral gave him a signal written on a piece of paper, which I did not see. Being at that moment looking out of a stern port into the stern walk, I did not see what the Commander-in-Chief wrote on the piece of paper.

After asking and obtaining permission to refer to his notes, Captain Bourke added: "After the flag lieutenant left the cabin the Commander-in-Chief went and sat in the stern walk. It was then that the flag lieutenant came down to say that the Staff Commander had told him eight cables was to be the signal, while he (the Admiral) had ordered six. I am now going to say something I did not put in my statement. I then said to the Admiral, or words to this effect, 'You certainly said it was to be more than six cables.' The Admiral then said to the flag lieutenant, 'Leave it six cables.' The flag lieutenant went on deck. I was left in the stern walk with the Admiral. As I have no proof of any sort as to what did pass between myself and the Admiral I must ask the Court to excuse my saying anything about what I said to the Admiral when in the stern walk alone with him. I have no proof of what I said, and in the circumstances I am afraid I must decline to make any statement." The subject was discussed between the Admiral and myself. I can go as far as that. The question is a very serious one for me, sir, and I must decline to make any statement. The only person I said it to, whatever I said, is gone. He is it have qualified any statement I might make now. I will go so far as to say, sir, that I reminded the Admiral that our circle was 800 yards. He said the columns should remain at six cables. I then went on deck.

In reply to further questions from the Prosecutor, Captain Bourke stated that when the signals were hoisted he was on the top of the fore chart-house. He did not then say anything to the Admiral in reference to the manœuvre. The distance between the Victoria and the Camperdown was then about six cables. The diameter of the Victoria's circle at the ordinary speed of the fleet was just under 600 yards, with extreme helm. The helm used under ordinary circumstances was 28 degress, which gave an estimated circle of 800 yards. The extreme helm of the Victoria was 25 degrees. The Camperdown's turning circle was practically the same as that of the Victoria.

The Prosecutor: Did you remember that at the moment the signal 'Turn inwards' was hoisted?

Captain Bourke: I do not remember having been struck by it at that moment.

While the signal was flying did you say anything to the Admiral at all on the subject of turning?

No, the Admiral was talking to the Staff Commander in a joking way. As far as I can recollect, it was some joke about the time, and had nothing to do with the manœuvre at all.

Did you ask permission to reverse the portscrew when the signal was hauled down?

Directly the signal came down and the helm was put over, the ship having swung about two points with the helm extreme, I said to the Admiral, "We shall be very close to that ship," meaning the Camperdown. I then turned round to Mr. Lanyon, midshipman, who was my aide-de-camp, and told him to take the distance to the Camperdown. To the best of my recollection, when I spoke to the Admiral he looked aft, but made no answer at all. After I spoke to Mr. Lanyon I again said, "We had better do something; we shall be very close to the Camperdown." All this time we were turning. I then said to the Admiral, receiving no answer, "May I go astern full speed with the port screw?" "I asked this question, to the best of my belief, twice or three times, quickly one after the other. At last he said "Yes." The port telegraph was immediately put "Full speed," and without further orders. Very shortly after I ordered both screws to be put half speed astern.

Captain Bourke was next examined in great detail concerning the water-tight compartments. He put in a written statement showing that the compartments were open but were closed before and after the collision. He also explained to the Court by means of models the situation in this respect as well as the nature of the damage done. The damage he personally saw done was to the upper deck, which was ploughed into and set back up towards amidships. He did not know that the gun ports were ever closed. The order was given, but he did not think it was carried out. He did not think the doors in the screen bulkhead were closed. The amount of heel while the ships were locked was practically nil. If anything it was slightly to starboard. As soon as the Camperdown cleared the Victoria immediately began to settle forward. She did so visibly and increasingly to starboard. The degree of heel was twenty at the outside, but the bow was very much depressed. On my coming up from below there was no one in the flats or on the main deck. Everybody had come up. I was the last person to come up except the poor men down in the engine-room.

Can you account for the great number of men drowned?

I think that unfortunately among the stokers and marines there was a very large proportion who could not swim. Except those who were unfortunately in the boiler-room and engine-room I am of opinion that every single soul in the ship was on deck. They had fallen in on the port side of the upper deck. I do not think anyone really appreciated, certainly I did not, that at the heel we were at the ship was going to turn over. Nobody thought the end was so near. All had fallen in, four deep. I say this to show the way the men behaved. When they first fell in all the ship's company were taken amidships with their backs to the ship's side. Some officers, I don't know who, gave an order, which was repeated by the masters-at-arms, who is among the survivors, and can be examined, "Right about wheel." The whole ship's company turned to the right about and faced to the ships side. I dont suppose there will be another opportunity of saying so, and I therefore mention these circumstances as showing the wonderful command everybody had over himself. Not one single man fell out of the ranks to go to the ship's side. Just at the last Lieutenant Heath gave the order to jump, and he is the only person, I think, who gave an order. I do not think the Commander-in-Chief gave any order, and am afraid there was no order at all. Nobody appreciated to the last moment how near the end was. When this order had been given, which practically meant "Look out for yourselves," a number of men were to the side and clambered up over the side. Especially those near the gangways escaped in this way. I am afraid those on the starboard side were not so fortunate. Eyewitnesses on the other ships will be able to tell you better than I with what extraordinary rapidity the ship went over. One officer, a gunner, states that around him the water was absolutely thick with men. There was not really room to swim in. These men had mainly come over the bottom of the ship and were close to the vessel. Others like myself, have a distinct recollection of flying through the air. Others, again, went over backwards into the water. Those who were unable to get up on to were hurt in any way clutching at those trying to keep afloat. After the explosion of the boilers there was a tremendous upheaval of water, and this was right in the middle of an enormous crowd of men. The ship sank in from 75 to 80 fathoms. She was roughly 60 fathoms long, and I think what must have happened, was that the stroke the bottom going down head first. It was this tremendous shock of the ship striking the bottom that caused the boilers to go to pieces. Then up came this enormous great swirl of water, carrying with it spars and wreckage, and undoubtedly many men must have been struck by spars and other objects. A number of men are in hospital now with broken ribs who do not know how or by what they were struck. I can't help thinking some must have been caught by the ship when she turned over.

The President: Have you formed any opinion as to whether if the ship had sunk gradually instead of turning over more men would have been saved?

Captain Bourke: I think so, because undoubtedly when she turned over any men who were on the starboard side had a very remote chance of getting clear. One officer who was on the starboard side, and also Dr. Moon and a sailmaker, went right round the ship under water. They were on the starboard side, and the ship went right over them.

Captain Bourke was further examined by the Court on the 18 ultimo: State to the best of your recollection all that took place between you and the late Commander-in-Chief when he was in the stern walk, after the Staff Commander had left.

Captain Bourke: It was after the flag lieutenant left that the Commander-in-Chief was sitting on a seat in the stern walk on the port side. I was standing between him and the door leading into the aft cabin. After the flag lieutenant left I reminded the Commander-in-Chief that our circle was 800 yards. I cannot remember his exact words, but he said rather shortly, a little sharply, something to this effect, "That is all right; leave it at six cables." That is all that passed. I then went on deck.

Was there anything else passed between yon subsequently?

Captain Bourke: No. I never saw the Commander-in-Chief again before he came to the top of the chart-house.

When did it first strike you there was danger of a collision?

Captain Bourke: Almost immediately we began to turn I reminded the Commander-in-Chief that we should be very close to the Camperdown. It is very difficult to know what one's impressions at the moment were. One has thought about it so much, and so much has been said since, as to what might, and ought to have happened, that at last I am in that position that I could not swear what my impressions were. Was the Staff Commander sent for only in regard to the anchorage of the squadron, or for the Admiral to consult him as to manœuvres?

Captain Bourke: To the best of my belief, he was never consulted on the subject of manœuvres. I might add that he was never consulted.

What was the worst turning ship in the fleet?

Captain Bourke: The Edgar and the Edinburgh. I am not sure which is the worse of the two.

Did 28 degrees of the Victoria's helm turn her in the same circle as the worst turning ship in the fleet when the latter's helm was hard over?

Captain Brouke: That was the intention. I am not sure whether the helms of the Edgar or the Edinburgh had anything to spare, but it was generally the intention that they should not. When the Commander-in-Chief first hoisted his flag the custom on the Victoria was to use 30 degrees of the helm, and he altered it to 28.

When the signal was hauled down, who gave the order on his occasion to put the helm over?

Captain Bourke: The Staff Commander.

Why was the helm put hard over instead of at the usual angle of 28 degrees? Did you give any orders on the subject?

Captain Bourke: I gave no order.

You say you asked permission to reverse the screw; was there any order in the squardon, beyond the directions in the manual, that the screws were not to be reversed?

Captain Bourke: None that I know of.

How far off was the Camperdown when she turned astern with her port screw?

Captain Bourke: About two and a half cables. She was on our starboard bow. Both screws were reversed almost immediately afterwards.

Had you seen this manœuvre performed before in the squadron when the columns were further apart?

Captain Bourke: Not that I can remember.

In reply to further questions put by the Court, the prisoner said he could not remember a single case of the Commander-in-Chief being forward at ordinary manœuvres. He (the Admiral) used to say that the Victoria was a very bad ship for an admiral, because his flags were forward, and it was the business of the Captain to look forward and the Admiral to look aft.

Captain Bourke continued: I never was aft, and he was never forward except when he used to come forward to tell me when he thought we had gone far-enough and which way he meant to go. I never knew before he gave the order.

Then on this occasion you felt that you were personally manœuvring the Victoria?

Captain Bourke: Yes.

In such a case do you consider it necessary to ask permission before reversing one of the screws or altering the helm?

Captain Bourke: I can only say that I suppose I ought to have done it.

The question is put to you in a general sense.

Captain Bourke: No; no more than any other captain in the squadron. By that I mean that if the Admiral had been aft I should certainly not have sent aft to ask permission to alter the speed of the engines—at least, do not think so, but I have never been in a similar position.

Can you say how long it was between your asking permission to reverse and the Admiral granting it?

Captain Bourke: Almost directly we commenced to turn I began to say something to the Admiral about being too close to the Camperdown. That went on the whole time, with the exception of the time when I spoke to Midshipman Lanyon and told him to take the distance to the Camperdown. When I said to the Admiral. "We must do something," he made no answer, but turned aft—I suppose to see whether the helm was acting. He never answered me at all. I should say the time that elapsed after I spoke to the Admiral till the screw was reversed was about thirty seconds.

Did you make any remark about the closeness of the divisions either to the Admiral or the Staff Commander on deck immediately before the signal was hauled down?

Captain Bourke: No, but my impression is I said to the Staff Commander. "He won't go to more than six cables."

Did you make at any time any direct communication to the Admiral that in your opinion to perform this manœuvre with only six cables between the divisions would in all probability result in a collision?

Captain Bourke: No.

Did it not strike you that the Admiral by some mischance was confusing the distance of the radius of the circle, namely two cables, with that of the diameter of the circle, which was four cables, when he ordered the divisions to be put six cables apart?

Captain Bourke: I can hardly say what struck me. I fear it could not have struck me in that light because I think I should have said so. It seems to me I had in my mind something else was going to happen. I had, like everybody else, unbounded confidence in the Commander-in-Chief, and the idea in my mind was, "He is going to change; he is going to do something. He knows how to get out of it."

Can you explain how the signal for six cables came to be made after the Commander-in-Chief had practically assented to eight cables?

Captain Bourke: Directly the Staff Commander left the cabin the Admiral rang a bell and sent for the flag lieutenant. It was then that he ordered the fleet to be put in columns of division of six cables, and I believe he wrote it on a piece of paper, which, however, I did not see.

LORD GILLFORD IN THE BOX.

Lord Gillford, flag lieutenant of the Victoria, was the next witness. In reply to a question from the Prosecutor, he said "I desire to amplify my statement with the following particulars. When the Admiral ordered me to make the signal he gave me at the same time a small piece of paper, on which was written the figure 6—nothing else. This I took down to the Staff Commander. When I went below I told the Admiral what the Staff Commander had said. Captain Bourke remarked that the Commander-in-Chief had told the Staff Commander eight cables. At 3-15 p.m., when the Admiral came on to the aft bridge, a midshipman took the distance to the Camperdown, which was six cables, if anything a little more. After the signals had been hoisted the Commander-in-Chief asked what we were waiting for. I said, I believe, 'The Camperdown,' and went to see whether all the ships had answered. I could see they all had, and then returned to the top of the charthouse and told the Admiral the Camperdown was the only ship we were waiting for. We then turned about four or five points I heard the Captain ask the Admiral if he thought we could do it, or words to that effect. I heard no answer. A collision appearing likely, I heard the captain twice, I believe, ask the Admiral if he might go astern with the port engines. As soon as the Admiral gave permission the port engines were reversed, and almost immediately afterwards the starboard engines also. 'Close water-tight doors' was piped about a minute before the collision. Just before the Camperdown struck the Admiral hailed Admiral Markham twice, 'Go astern.' In my written statement I say that the Victoria immediately heeled slightly over to starboard. I should like to correct this. There was apparently no heel as the ship struck. She appeared to be carried bodily to port. On the Camperdown clearing, which she did in about one minute, the Victoria heeled slightly to starboard and commenced to settle slowly by the bows. I observed the Nile pass very close to our port quarter, I should say about twenty-five yards off. After the ships had cleared, and before we went aft, I said to the Staff Commander, asked him for his opinion whether he wished him to go ahead full speed or half speed. The Admiral told him half speed. Shortly after that the Admiral asked the Staff Commander what he thought of the situation. He replied that, being struck so far forward, he thought the ship would turn right over. About that time the helm had broken down the Admiral made the general semaphore, 'Have boats ready, but don't send them,' and there was some signal from the Nile about towing or taking in tow, I cant remember exactly."

The Prosecutor: Was there anything on the paper the Admiral gave you except the figure 6?

Lord Gillford: No; when I had made the signal the Staff Commander came to me and said that the Admiral had told him it was to be eight cables. I went below to ask the Admiral again, in order to make certain what the Staff Commander had said, and he told me he wished the columns to remain six cables apart. Before or after this Captain Bourke remarked that the Commander-in-Chief had told the Staff Commander he wished the columns to be eight cables apart. I then went on deck, and as the signal was answered hauled it down, and sent to inform the Staff Commander what the Admiral had said with regard to the turning signal.

The Prosecutor: State how you received the order.

Lord Gillford: The Admiral ordered me to set the signal "Second division alter course 16 points starboard; first division alter course 16 points port."

The Prosecutor: Can you say how the ship turned over?

Lord Gillford: I was holding on to a six-pounder gun by the shoulder-piece. I could not keep my feet on deck, and the water came up to me. After that I know nothing, and cannot say whether she turned over and over or not.

The Prosecutor: How did the Admiral give you the signals usually?

Lord Gillford: When on deck he always gave me the signals verbally, and sometimes also on paper.

The Prosecutor: Was there nothing unusual in having the figure 6 written on paper and the rest of the signals given verbally?

Lord Gilford: Well, I should have expected to see written on the paper, "Columns to be at six," or something to that effect.

"IT WAS ALL MY FAULT."

The Prosecutor: Did you hear the Admiral at any time after the collision pass any remark as to whom, if anyone, he blamed for having caused it, or assign any reason whatever for its cause?

Lord Gilford: Yes.

The Prosecutor: State what you heard.

Lord Gillford: Might I ask if I am bound to answer this question?

The President: You are bound to answer every question asked you, unless it tends to criminate yourself. These questions are very painful, but we have to carry out the law, and you are bound to say.

Lord Gillford: The Admiral said: "It was all my fault."

The Prosecutor: Did he say it to you, or was it a general exclamation?

Lord Gillford: I believe no one heard it except myself.

The Prosecutor: Did he address you?

Lord Gillford: I believe he did, but he was not looking directly at me. He was standing alongside me. He said nothing else, and immediately after wards I went below.

STAFF COMMANDER SMITH.

Staff Commander Hawkins Smith, of the Victoria, was then sworn. In answer to the Prosecutor he said: I also wish to amplify my written statement. When the Captain left the top of the charthouse, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief, the Admiral asked my opinion as to the ship's floating. I replied that she ought to keep afloat some time, as she was struck so far forward. I asked, "Shall we steer in for the land?" The Admiral said, "What water are we in?" I replied, "Deep water, 70 to 80 fathoms." He then said, "Yes; go astern with the port-engine ahead with the starboard, and point her clear of the Nile," that ship being then a little on our port bow or nearly ahead. The engines were put half speed ahead and half speed astern, and I said, "What speed, sir, Full?" He replied, "No, go seven knots." I gave directions as soon as we were pointed clear of the Nile to put both telegraphs at seven knots and the revolution telegraph at 38 revolutions. It was about this time that the Commander-in-Chief, seeing the Dreadnought's boats being lowered, some of them being already in the water, gave me, to make the signal "Annul sending boats, then an open signal in form on each quarter, his intention being to steam in for the land and not to leave the boats behind. The ship moved so slowly round to her helm, which was hard a-starboard, never having been righted, that the Admiral said to me, "Is the anchor gone?" I looked and said, "No, sir, it is in its place not touched. My intention in carrying out the Admiral's instructions to steer for the land was to head about south, and when she came within about two points of that I gave the order to put the helm amidships. The quartermaster tried to right the helm, and then, turning to me, said, "I cannot move the helm, the pressure is off," meaning sir, hydraulic pressure. I said, "Ring down to the engine-room and tell them to keep it on." In the meantime the Commander-in-Chief, seeing that the collision mat could not be placed, gave orders to close the upper deck apertures. The men were engaged in this work until they had to be called in, being up to their middles in water. The Admiral then remarked to me, "I think she is going." I replied, "Yes, sir, I think she is." He turned round to give the order to make the signal "Send boats immediately." While turning round to do this he saw one of the midshipmen on the fore and aft bridge near the standard compass abaft the funnels, and said to him, "Don't stop there, youngster; go to a boat." I think these were his last words. Immediately after that the ship gave a heavy lurch, and then turned over very quickly, instantly almost, and we found ourselves in the water going down. I cannot give the midshipman's name, I did not turn round myself to see him. When I got down with the charts the Admiral asked me the position of the ship and the course we were steering, which I pointed out, and the next course I proposed, which was east by north. He then asked me at what distance we should pass off Ramkine Lighthouse. I replied exactly 2½ miles. He then said, "How far will that take us off the anchorage?" I said, "That will do very well, as it will give the ships time to get into the station before anchoring." He then continued, "I shall form the fleet into columns of two divisions, six cables apart, and reverse the course by turning inwards;" adding, "You look out for the times." It then struck me at once that our smallest turning circle being two cables, eight was the least possible distance it could be done in, and I said, "It will require at least eight cables for that, sir." He replied after a moment's hesitation, "Yes, it shall be eight cables." I then took the charts forward on deck. Seeing "six cables," flying I went aft to the flag lieutenant and said, "Have you not made a mistake? The Admiral said eight cables." He replied, "No, I think not," and showed me a piece of paper with the figure 6 on it in pencil, which I believe was in the Admiral's handwriting, but I cannot swear to that. Thinking this was a mistake arising from the Admiral's former intention, I requested the flag lieutenant to go down and make sure, which he did, I going forward.

The Prosecutor: Did you personally have any conversation with the Admiral about the collision?

Staff Commander Smith: No.

The Prosecutor: He said nothing to you about it?

Staff Commander Smith: Yes. There was no conversation, but he made use of an expression in regard to it.

The Prosecutor: Will you state what that expression was?

Staff Commander Smith: He said, "It was entirely my doing; entirely my fault."

The President: Do you consider eight cables was a sufficient distance for the divisions to be apart to perform the manœuvre evidently desired?

Staff Commander Smith: No.

The President: What distance do you consider the divisions should have been apart to perform this manœuvre in a satisfactory manner, allowing a certain margin for safety.

Staff Commander Smith: Ten cables.

Lieutenant Heath, executive officer of the Victoria, likewise supplemented his written statement. He informed the Court that he gave the order to close the water-tight doors above one minute before the collision occurred. He did so without hearing any order, and merely carried out what he knew would be the Captain's wishes.

ADMIRAL MARKHAM EXAMINED.

ADMIRAL TRYON'S ORDER.

The examination of Rear Admiral Markham, of the Camperdown, was at once began on the 25th ult. in reply to a question from the Prosecutor, witness said he had nothing to add to his original despatches dated the 22nd of June and the 1st of July, and which were before the Court.

The Prosecutor: Will you state what passed through your mind when the signal "Turn inwards" was first hoisted?

Admiral Markham. When the signal was reported to me by the flag lieutenant I said, "It is impossible as it is an impracticable manœuvre," I ordered him to keep the signal I was repeating at the top as an indication that I did not understand it, I then walked forward to the fore bridge, and met Captain Johnstone coming aft to me for directions. I said to Captain Johnstone, "It is all right; don't do any thing. I have not answered the signal. I then went aft to the after bridge and directed the flag lieutenant to semaphore to the Commander-in-Chief to know if he wished the evolution to be performed as indicated by the signal. Before the signal could be made the flag lieutenant reported to me that the Commander-in-Chief had made a signal asking what I was waiting for. I made the signal back, "Because I do not quite understand the signal." The signal was taken in on board the Victoria, and Camperdown pennants were hoisted by the Victoria as an indication that we were delaying the manœuvre. It then struck me across my mind that there was only one interpretation of the signal, and that was that I was to put the helm down and turn sixteen points starboard and the Victoria would ease her helm down and circle round outside my division. I was all the more led to believe this opinion from the fact that the signal to the second division was hoisted superior to that in the first division. I conferred hurriedly both with the flag lieutenant and Captain Johnstone. They were both of my way of thinking, and seeing that was the only safe way of performing the evolution I hoisted the signal to the second division "I may say that prior to the signal being made I had discussed with the flag lieutenant and Captain Johnstone what I thought would be the manœuvre in order to get the squadron in their anchorage bearings. One of them said, "He will invert the line," but to this I demurred, saying I am quite sure he will not carry out so very dull and puerile a manœuvre. The only way I can see to get our ships properly in their anchorage bearings would be to alter the course sixteen points, the leaders to go over to starboard or to port, and the remainder in succession. We shall after that alter the course eight points to port and form together close up to the rear column, which will bring us on to our anchorage bearings and distances."

The Prosecutor: What is the diameter of the Camperdown's circle at nine knots?—I think about 690 yards, but I am not sure.

Is that with extreme helm?—Yes.

Was the Victoria's circle about the same?—I can not say, I think a little more.

With the columns at six cables apart, supposing the ships to turn towards each other with the full helm, did the absolute certainty of a collision occur to you?—Most certainly.

When the Commander-in-Chief signalled "What are you waiting for," read from the signal log your reply.

Admiral Markham (reading): "3-32 p. m., from Camperdown to flag? 'Don't quite understand signal.'

The Prosecutor: Did you give the Commander-in-Chief any warning of the danger you saw?—I saw no danger if the manœuvre was to be carried out as I expected.

Were you on the 22nd of June aware of the existence of the memorandum which had previously been issued by Admiral Tryon bearing especially on discretion in obeying orders?

Admiral Markham: I was.

The Prosecutor: Has the memorandum referred to been reproduced in the new edition of the station orders dated May, 1893, which has just been distributed?

Admiral Markham: Yes, it was shown me for the first time to-day.

The Judge-Advocate here read the memorandum in question, which runs as follows—

Victoria, at Malta.

"It may frequently happen that an order may be given to an officer which, from circumstances not known to the person who gave it at the time he issued it, would be impossible to execute, or the difficulty or risk of the execution of it would be so great as to amount to a moral impossibility" (Duke of Wellington's G. O. November 11, 1809). 1. While an order should be implicitly obeyed, still circumstances may change and conditions may widely vary from those known, or even from those that presented themselves at the time the orders were issued. In such cases the officer receiving orders, guided by the object that he knows his Chief has in view, must act on his own responsibility. 2. (a) Orders directing the movement of a ship either collectively or singly are invariably accompanied as a matter of course with the paramount understood condition "with due regard to the safety of Her Majesty's ships." (b) When the literal obedience to any order, however given, would entail a collision with a friend or endanger a ship by running on shore or in any other way, paramount orders direct that the danger is to be avoided, while the object of the order should be attained if possible. 3. An admiral leading a fleet relies with confidence that while the "order" of the fleet is maintained each ship will be handled and piloted with all the attention that is expected from her for the guidance of the leading ship. He relies that this will be the case more especially when a fleet is approaching land or a harbour. When a tide or current is experienced it is clear that a follow can cannot be safely conducted by eye-steering after a leader. Rear ships are liable to be swept by currents to one side or the other off the safe track, and the further they are off a leader of a column, the further they are likely to be form the true track. 4. Risks that are not only justifiable but are demanded during war are not justifiable during peace manœuvring. 5. Ships following a leader in column should when manœuvring avoid turning on a greater arc than that of the leader. If there is any error or difference it should be due to turning on a smaller arc. 6. As a rule when a ship has turned wide on a leader following ships should turn on the guide of their column and not on the ship that has got out of station and has to recover it. 7. When in line ahead any error from the exact station of a ship should be in the direction of being ahead of station, but when in line abreast any error should be in the direction of being astern of station rather than ahead of it. 8. The neighbourly duties of ships in a fleet to each other are duties which must be kept constantly in mind.

G. TRYON, Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

Examination continued: When returning the signal flying, did you remember the provisions in article 2, paragraphs (a) and (b) of that memoradum?

Admiral Markham: I do not know that these articles were actually running in my head, but the safety of my ship and division certainly was.

The Prosecutor: How do you account for your action in the manœuvre, bearing in mind the directions contained in that article?

Admiral Markham: Because, as I said before, I thought the first division was going to wheel round me, which would have been a manœuvre of perfect safetly and a feasible one.

The Prosecutor: Will you state again exactly how you came to that conclusion?

Admiral Markham: I arrived at that conclusion because it was the only safe interpretation of the signal. The other was an absolute impossibility.

The Prosecutor: You state you expected the Victoria to ease her helm down. Does easing the helm down, or putting it hard over make any difference.

Admiral Markham: I expected the signal to the second division, being superior, would in all probability have been hauled down before that to the first division, and I so stated to Captain Johnstone and my flag lieutenant. So much so that when it was reported to me that the signal was down I said, "Are they both hauled down?" I watched very attentively the helm signal of the Victoria, and also ordered my flag lieutenant to watch and report to me immediately she began to right her helm. When we were bows on approaching each other I saw no alteration had taken place in the helm signals of the Victoria. I at once gave the order to Captain Johnstone to reverse the starboard screw and close the water-tight doors. Shortly afterwards, seeing that a collision was inevitable, I gave the order to go astern with both engines. When the signal was hauled down we in the Camperdown were powerless to avoid a collision. At the moment the order was given to reverse the starboard screw the Victoria was about two cables distant.

The Prosecutor: Are you of opinion that at that moment it was impossible to avoid a collision?

Admiral Markmam: It was impossible for the Camperdown before a collision unless she went contrary to the rule of the road.

After describing the collision and showing how it occurred by means of models produced, the witness further questioned, said that he heard no hailing from the Victoria. The Commander-in-Chief came over to the starboard side of the Victoria's bridge, and said something, which, however, witness failed to catch on account of the noise made by the boat hoist, which was at work; but from inquiries he had since gathered that what the Commander-in-Chief said was, "Go astern with both engines" or "Use both engine for going astern." The Victoria appeared to go down a few seconds after she turned over. Something in the nature of a photographic picture of the sinking of the Victoria, taken by an officer of another ship, was handed to the Court by Captain Bourke.

Examination continued: Witness had noticed no explosion. A volume of smoke and water shot up from the wreck and the sea was much agitated, but he saw nothing he could call an explosion. The diameter of the circle formed by the agitation of the water was about a cable and a half. It was round this circle that the survivors were picked up, none inside. Undoubtedly a great many men were sucked down. The boats of the nearest ships were very quickly on the spot; the others were some distance away, the ships of the squadron at that time being many miles ahead.

The President: With regard to your interpretation of the signal, have you ever seen such a manœuvre performed as the Victoria circling round you?

Admiral Markham: I have never seen one or the other performed in the fleet. Had he circled round me it would have preserved the order of the fleet, which I might possibly have thought was his intention.

The President: Do you think if at that moment you had shifted your helm hard starboard and the Victoria's helm had remained as it was you would have gone clear?

Admiral Markham: No, I should have been utterly wrong in doing it.

The President: Ah, that is another point. Are you aware that the rule of the road does not apply in manœuvres

Admiral Markham: Yes.

The President: You said in a former answer that you would have had to go contrary to the rule of the road. Are we right in assuming that you took charge of the ship on this particular occasion?

Admiral Markham: I assumed perfect and entire resposibility for the ship, although I did not tell Captain Johnstone I had done so. I gave him orders to carry out, and he carried them out.

The President: With regard to Admiral Tryon's memorandum which has been read to the Court, are you are aware why it was issued?

Admiral Markham: The memorandum in question was, I think, issued in consequence of the stranding of the Howe; in fact, I know it was.

The President: How far were you from the Victoria when she sank?

Admiral Markham: About two cables.

The President: Do you think that any greater loss of life was caused by the signal "Annul boats" than otherwise would have been the case?

Admiral Markham: It is difficult to say. Possibly more might have been saved. When the signal was made to negative the sending of boats I assumed that the Commander-in-Chief wished to steer for the land, and that the boats would only hamper his movements. I may add that although the signal was made to negative the sending of the boats, boats were being prepared just the same as if no signal had been made.

The President: Has a signal ever before been made to you which, as in this case, caused doubts in your mind as to the possibility of executing it with due safety to your division?

Admiral Markham: Never in my recollection.

The President: Did you not feel in this case, as you were acting on an assumption of what the Commander-in-Chief was going to do, that you ran a very great risk?

Admiral Markham: No, I felt no anxiety, having the fullest confidence in the Commander-in-Chief.

The President: Before the time when the ships were end on, or nearly end on, could not a collision have been easily averted by either ship giving way and righting her helm?

Admiral Markham: I should say a collision might have been averted after they had turned two or three points; I could be difficult to say after wards, though at four points perhaps. With the idea in my head that the Victoria was going to circle round me, I could not have starboarded the helm of the Camperdown.

CAPTAIN JONESTONE'S STORY.

Captain Johnstone, of the Camperdown, was sworn. After producing the Camperdown's books he stated, in reply to a question, that when the turning order was communicated to him he sent for the signal-book and looked for the signification of the signal hoisted. When he understood it he turned from the fore bridge to go aft. He met Admiral Markham, and said to him something to the effect that a mistaken signal had been made.

The Prosecutor: How did you arrive at that conclusion?

Captain Johnstone: Because I knew the columns were at six cables, and the manœuvre ordered could not be performed as I then understood it. Admiral Markham said, "All right; we have not repeated it." He then came forward and made some remark, perhaps as much to himself as to me, to the following effect:—"Oh, yes, the Admiral intends to circle outside us: Hoist the signal close up."

The Prosecutor: Did you agree with that conclusion?

Captain Johnstone: Yes.

The Prosecutor: Can you point out in the singal-book authority for that conclusion?—Captain Johnstone: No.

The Prosecutor: Can you say how you arrived at it?

Captain Johnstone: I accepted it as the probable and only conclusion.

The Prosecutor: Knowing the circle of the Camperdown, you were aware that turning the columns six cables apart it was absolutely certain a collision would take place?

Captain Johnstone: Yes.

The Prosecutor: Were you aware of the existence of Admiral Tryon's memorandum on the subject of discretion in obeying orders?—Captain Johnstone: Yes, but I never consider it has any bearing on a case such as the one in question.

The Prosecutor: How do you account for that answer, bearing in mind the directions contained in the Act on discipline?

Captain Johnstone: I consider, on the one hand, that

THE MARQUIS OF DUFFERIN AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY, PARIS.

THE *World* on its "Celebrities at Home" series has the following sketch of Lord Dufferin:—The Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore is by no means one of the handsomest or most attractive streets of the capital of France. It forms the continuation of the better-known Rue Saint-Honore, itself a seemingly interminable thoroughfare, running, as everybody knows, from a point near the Halles Centrales to the Rue Royale. Thereafter it becomes a Faubourg, and, as such, continues its narrow and somewhat irregular course as far as the Avenue de Wagram. The united thoroughfares contain a few good hotels and several third and fourth rate ones, and a multitude of shops, mostly of an inferior sort. The westerly portion, or Faubourg, is of more dignity, though its architectural pretensions are slight. Here, however, are the hotels (in the French sense of the word) of several pillars of the high finance, including a Rothschild; the Elysee, now the palace of the Chief of the State; and, of equal interest, at all events in English eyes, the British Embassy. All these have fine gardens which extend to the borders of the Champs-Elysees, unsurpassed for varied arboricultural beauty by those of any city in the world. As you stand on the balcony of the great drawing-room of the Embassy, you might fancy yourself a thousand miles in the country, so completely are you surrounded by the great planes and elms, chestnuts and sycamores; so fine and clear and full of music is the air. The apex of the Eiffel Tower is the only object that reminds you that you are, indeed, at the very pivot and centre of Parisian life.

The story of the house which has been for seventy-eight years the home of the representatives of her Majesty in France has lately been written in the Paris *Figaro*. It is a truly remarkable chapter of contemporary history. Our limits do not permit us to trace it in any detail. Suffice it to say that in the year 1815 it was purchased by the Duke of Wellington from the Princess (Pauline) Borghese, sister of the great Napoleon. There seems some dispute as to the exact price paid. One account gives it at 24,000*l*, another at 600,000 francs. Even if the larger sum be taken, the house and garden would probably realise at least eight times that amount to-day. With the house was acquired the Princess's furniture, a fact to which nearly every room bears eloquent testimony. The collection of furniture, of hangings, of clocks and chandeliers and candelabra—in point of fact, nearly the whole of the permanent contents of the Embassy, as distinguished from those belonging to the personage who happens to be the Ambassador—is fairly to be described as magnificent. Nearly all of them are of the veritable "Empire" or "Directoire" period. It is not without much interest that you inspect a portrait of the Princess herself. It represents the historic statue of her, so very "classical" as to be almost entirely destitute of clothing. Surely nothing so frankly "Academic" has ever been seen. She is said to have been *petite*; her effigy gives you a contrary impression. "When she was asked," says your host, repeating the well-known story, "if she did not find the sitting somewhat—trying, she replied: 'No; the studio was *quite warm!*'"

The Embassy is approached from the street by a large courtyard, over the portals of which the Royal arms are displayed conspicuously; and a couple of quaint iron sundials, of an antique pattern, on the inside wall facing the house, may haply escape notice until you make your exit. The hall is extremely capacious, and is divided from the courtyard and the reception-rooms by huge glass partitions and doors. Spoils of our Ambassador's career at once attract notice—such as two golden Burmese figures, very fine and large; a curious model of Theebaw's palace at Mandalay, in over one hundred pieces, complete in the smallest detail; and another model, in pith, of an Indian temple. The reception-rooms, of which there appear to be nearly a dozen, occupy the whole of the ground and the first floors; and besides these, which are ordinarily occupied, a wing stretches out along both sides of the garden, each being, in fact, a long apartment reserved for special occasions and the larger entertainments given by the Ambassador. It is more than likely that a visitor to Lord Dufferin will be received, to begin with, by Mr. McFerran, who has been his Excellency's *private* Private Secretary for some twelve years, in a room hung with a highly attractive and meritorious series of water-colours, most of them by Lord Dufferin's mother, who to her beauty, her wit, and other varied gifts and graces, added much artistic accomplishment. Several of them are by the pencil of Lord Dufferin himself, and you cannot doubt that one (*par exemple*) of a Spitzbergen landscape is a relic and illustration of the days of the famous *Letters from High Latitudes*. So many are the rooms, and so attractive are their contents, that no attempt at cataloguing them may here be made. In one of the smaller rooms, with many other Indian curiosities, is a collection of portraits of nearly all the native Princes of India, presented by themselves to Lord Dufferin before he left the East. In the "small dinning-room," his Excellency shows you, with some pride, a fine portrait of King Humbert of Italy, presented to Lady Dufferin by his Majesty; in several rooms are examples of the art of the Old Masters collected during Lord Dufferin's residence at Rome. On the first floor, approached by an extremely handsome marble staircase, the more private rooms are found, such as the large drawing-room before mentioned, overlooking the garden, which you may probably find occupied by a merry party of English girls, including the daughters of the house, the ripple of whose laughter is not the least welcome of the homelike items of your visit. Everywhere is the same beautiful "Empire" furniture; here the hangings are red, there white and gold; relics of the Indian viceroyalty in the shape of some forty or fifty superb baskets, baskets and boxes, in gold, silver, ivory, sandalwood, and so on, are among the most highly prized ornaments of the house. Views of Calcutta and Ottawa, of Constantinople and Clandeboye, remind you of the strenuous and varied careers of Lord and Lady Dufferin. The photographs of tobogganing parties and similar pleasant gatherings show, however, that these have had their lighter and more festive side.

What may be described as more specifically the state rooms are on the ground-floor. Here, for instance, is the "Queen's Room," furnished for her Majesty when she last visited the Embassy. The upholstery is in cream satin damask, and on the walls is a fine full-length portrait of the Queen, copied from that at Windsor by Winterhalter. The "Throne Room" is the large and long room on the right, stretching into the garden, decorated with white and gold, the curtains being of yellow satin. At the end is a raised platform or dais, with the seat which gives it its designation. The parquet floor suggests dancing, but balls have not been frequent of late years at the Embassy. This room is always thrown open for Lady Dufferin's receptions; it communicates with all the other rooms by means of a wide verandah of glass and iron which runs across the back of the house and is used as a lounge as well as a corridor. The large and long room corresponding with this on the other side, and like it, forming a wing to the house, is the banqueting-room in which, on such occasions as the Queen's Birthday, nearly a hundred guests may be entertained without any crowding or confusion; it is adorned with groups of Indian arms and weapons effectively arranged. At these times there is a lavish display of gold and silver and silver-gilt plate, some of which, mostly of the Empire period, belongs to the Embassy, and is very fine. But our present Ambassador makes no small show himself, for his plate includes a remarkably fine suite of silver-gilt plate, purchased by him for use in Canada, at Christie's, from Prince Napoleon's sale. At the same time he re-secured a favourite revolving rifle, *a propos* of which he tells you an amusing story, which may some day be related in print. Lord Dufferin's own room and Lady Dufferin's boudoir are upstairs; the furniture of the latter is in green silk, and contains a variety of elegant and appropriate furniture.

It is easy to see, as Lord Dufferin is good enough to point out the notabilia and personalia of this remarkable house, how keenly his historical sense is aroused and stimulated by his present environment; how amply his fine literary faculties are gratified by its countless associations. He is surrounded by memories of the past, not only of the history of France, but of a long line of illustrious predecessors, the *ana* of whose careers are found in many volumes, and might assuredly be made to fill many more. Within living memory the French Embassy has been occupied by Lords Granville and Normanby (grandfathers of the present peers), Cowley, Lyons, and Lytton, and Lord Dufferin himself; though there are fewer memorials of their tenure of the place than you would expect to find. Lord Dufferin's own career is too well known to need recapitulation here. For forty years, in Syria, Russia, Turkey, Egypt, Canada, India, Italy, and lastly in France, it has been under public observation. His countrymen recognise in him the almost ideal performer of public duty, as well as the doyen of the living representatives of their Sovereign. His public life has left him small leisure for the delights of his Irish home; but his recent acceptance of the Lord Wardenship of the Cinque Ports has given him, with singular appropriateness, a house on those shores, within a few hours' reach of the Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore, and a pied a terre, practically speaking, almost within the London radius.

Whatever may seem to us to be the responsibilities of the British Ambassador in France, he surprises his guest by declaring that he is by no means a busy man. He speaks warmly of the services of his "staff," he never was better served than at present. A group of men such as Mr. Phipps, Mr. Austin Lee, Sir Joseph Crowe, Colonel Talbot (not to mention younger men like Mr. Ian Malcolm), are rarely found equipping an Embassy at one time. He enjoys his daily ride on the Bois, "at whatever time he can get it," he says. He once described himself as "the maid-of-all-work of the Ministry." And certainly the administration of governments constitutional and autocratic; diplomatic missions, special and permanent, to semi-savage races and the most refined and cultured capitals of Europe; not to mention the tenure of high ministerial posts at home give Lord Dufferin some claim to the universality implied by the term. In every situation to which he has been called he has earned applause, and the highest reputation for industry, patience, and judgment; for polished humour and refined wit, for tact and finesse, for the most delightful courtesy, as well as for plain-speaking and open-handed hospitality. In return, every honour which the public service of his country has to offer has been showered upon him. At the age of fifteen he inherited his father's Irish barony. Nine years later he accepted a barony of the United Kingdom; he was created an earl in 1871, and a marquess in 1888. Besides his ribbon of the Order of St. Patrick, he is probably the only British subject, outside the Royal circle, who is a Knight Grand Cross of the four "Service Orders" of the Bath, the Star of India, the Michael and George, and the Indian Empire.

Lord Dufferin has every claim to be regarded as among the most happily-endowed of our countrymen. In Lady Dufferin he has a wife blessed not only with the ordinary graces of Englishwomen of birth and wide culture, but with philanthropic instincts and great organising powers, to which the institutions linked with her name bear eloquent testimony in our great Eastern empire. The chapter of their lives is, it may be hoped, far from being ended. Lord Dufferin is now in the full ripeness of his years and the maturity of his great powers, and his countrymen have full right to expect still further services at his hands before the close comes of his long official career.

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

CIVIL AND MILITARY EXPENDITURE IN INDIA.

ON Friday, July 14, in the House of Commons Mr. Naoroji (for Sir W. Wedderburn) gave notice that day four weeks to call attention to civil and military expenditure in India and to move a resolution.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

In answer to Mr. Hanbury, Mr. Gladstone said he could not state when the Indian Budget would be taken, but from what he had heard there would be some convenience, in consequence of the remarkble circumstances in connection with the financial and monetary history of India this year, in not having the Indian Budget earlier than usual.

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.

Mr. Paul asked the Under-Secretary for India whether the despatch of Lord Kimberly to the Government of India, forwarding the resolution of the House of Commons with regard to Indian Civil Service examinations had been laid on the table, and when it would be distributed to members. Although extracts from it appeared in newspapers, it was not to be obtained at the vote Office.—Mr. G. W. Russell said it was some days since he had laid the despatch on the table. He had just learned that there was a deadlock between the India Office and the Queen's printers, the latter stating that a proof had been sent to the India Office and had not been returned, and the India Office averring that no proof had been received. This was not the first time that such a thing had taken place. He hoped that a satisfactory explanation from the Queen's printers would be forthcoming.

THE OPIUM COMMISSION.

On the 17th ultimo. Replying to Mr. Naoroji, Mr. G. Russell said: It will be a part of the duty of the Commission to ascertain the feeling of the people of India with regard to the subjects specified in the recent resolution of the House of Commons relating to the opium question, and this will necessarily be done by the taking of evidence rather than by attempting to represent on the Commission the numerous races and sects into which the population of India is livided. Every effort will be made to carry out thoroughly the resolution fo the House of Commons; but the Secretary to State is not at present in a position to make any statement with regard to the composition of the Commission.

OPIUM CONSUMPTION IN COLOMBO.

Mr. Schwann asked the Under-Secretary for the Colonies whether the sale and consumption of opium and bhang in Colombo (Ceylon) had doubled in the last four years, as indicated by the receipts of the Colombo municipality; and whether the Government would take measures to prevent licences for the use or the importation of these drugs except for strictly medicinal purposes.—Mr. Buxton: Since 1889 licences for the retail sale of opium and bhang in Colombo have been annually sold by auction instead of being given as previously for a fixed fee; but the number of licences has not been increased. It is true that the receipts from these licences have increased from Rs. 14,000 in 1889 to Rs. 26,600 in 1892, but the consumption of opium as shown by the imports, has only increased about 10 per cent. The Secretary of State will call for a report on the subject from the Ceylon Government; but he will await the report of the Commission about to be appointed to inquire into the opium question as it affects India before deciding whether any steps, and, if so, what steps, should be taken to restrict the consumption in Ceylon.

STATE REGULATION OF VICE.

Mr. W. M'Laren asked the Under-Secretary for India when the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire whether the Innian Government was carrying out the resolution of the House of Commons forbidding the state regulation of vice, would resume its sittings; and whether his attention had been called to Lord Roberts's offer to give evidence if called on to do so, and whether, as chairman of that committee or actng for the Government, he had requested Lord Roberts to give evidence; if not, whether, in view of Lord Roberts's frequent denials to newspaper interviewers that the system complained of exists, he would undertake that Lord Roberts should be at once called before the committee.—Mr. G. Russell said that witnesses from India with their evidence were on their way, and it was expected that they would arrive home at the end of present month, when the sittings of the committee would be immediately resumed. His attention had been calle1 to the statement of Lord Roberts, and he intended to take it upon himself to ask Lord Roberts, to give evidence when the committee resumed their sittings.

THE INDIAN CURRECY QUESTION.

On the 18th ult. Mr. Everett asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether there was any precedent for doing what was now being done in India—namely, artificially limiting the supply of the coins with which alone the people could meet their legal obligations. —Mr. Gladstone was understood to demur to the statement that at present there was an artificial restriction of the coinage of silver in India. That appeared to him to be a matter open to dispute. With regard to the question genenally, he had to refer his hon. friend to the report of Lord Hhrschell's Committee, where he would find instances referred to which presented strong points of analogy to the present situation. Taking into view the intentions of the Indian Government, there was no doubt the position was more or less a provisional and intermediate one, and that must be allowed for in estimating what had been done. He was given to understand that there was a very close analogy to it in the case of Austria in the years 1879 to 1891. The silver florin was there still as the representative of an old system, a metallic legal tender, but the mints were at the same time closed to the private coinage of silver, while in 1891 the gold standard was introduced. With respect to the condition of the Indian Mint, what he understood was that the quantity of silver coined was not to be regulated by the convenience of the Government, but by the wants of the country, the real demand for silver for the purposes of circulation.—Mr. Chaplin asked if the right hon. gentleman was to be understood to say that in the opinion of the Government the closing of the Indian Mint to the free coinage of silver placed no limit on the supply of the coin as compared with what had been the case hitherto.—Mr. Gladstone: Certainly not; but whereas the coinage of silver hitherto depended entirely upon the will of the person bringing the bullion to the mint for the purpose, it now depended on the estimate which the Government of India had the means of forming of the real wants of the country. just as in this country the quantity of silver was similarly regulated.—Mr. Chaplin said that to that extent, as he understood, it would be an artificial arrangement.—Mr. Gladstone: If the right hon. gentleman likes to apply that epithet he can do so, but I do not so apply it. I think it is rather a step on the road to what is natural.

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SIMULTANEOUS EXAMINATIONS FOR THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.

LORD KIMBERLEY'S DESPATCH.

WE have already given the text of the despatch which Lord Kimberley addressed to the Governor-General of India, in forwarding to him the resolution passed by the House of Commons on June 2 last, in favour of having all open competitive examinations for the Indian Civil Service held for the future in England and India simultaneously. Attached to the Parliamentary paper containing the copy of this despatch, are copies of lengthy minutes from six members of the Council of India in London, protesting in the most emphatic fashion against the policy of simultaneous examinations enunciated in the House of Commons resolution. It is reported that all the Members of Council were opposed to the despatch.

General Lumsden says:—

I regard with grave misgiving the proposal to extend the competitive system by holding open competitive examinations for the Civil Service of India, in India as well as in England, and I deprecate the language used in the first paragraph of the Secretary of State's despatch, calling upon the Government of India to report in what mode, and under what conditions and limitations, that resolution could be carried into effect.

Sir John Strachey, in recording his dissent, declares that "a measure has been suddenly taken which promises to revolutionise in its most essential conditions, the policy under which India has hitherto been governed." He concludes:—

According to the ordinary interpretation of the English language this despatch, as the Judicial and Public Committee of the Council have observed, can only be construed by the Government of India as an instruction to give practical effect to the resolution of the House of Commons. Nor does it appear to me that this interpretation is at all affected by the latter part of the despatch, which gives full discretion to the Government of India to make any observations upon the resolution that they desire. They may make observations and suggest conditions and limitations, but they are instructed to find the mode in which the resolution is to be carried out.

I had expected that the terms of the despatch would in this respect, have been different. In the discussion which took place in the House of Lords on June 14, the Secretary of State informed the House that "it would be open to the Government of India to say that they were not able to find any way of carrying the resolution into effect," and his explanation of the intention of her Majesty's Government was subsequently stated by the Prime Minister to be identical with his own. It gave, in my opinion, a very much wider and more complete discretion to the Government of India than that given in this despatch.

Although it is, I think, greatly to be regretted that this explanation has not been repeated, no modification of the language of the despatch would, in my opinion, remove the objections to the course that has been followed. The despatch will be sent to the Government of India, but I trust that it will be sent under the strongest protests which the members of this Council can record.

Sir Donald Stewart wrote:—

As I understand the Secretary of State is not prepared to modify the terms of the draft despatch to the Government of India on the subject of the resolution of the House of Commons, dated the 2nd instant, I am reluctantly compelled to record my dissent from it.

The draft, as it stands, appears to me to impose upon the Government of India an impossible task.

That Government is required, in the first place, to devise a scheme for the purpose of giving effect to the resolution, and then by way of caution the Viceroy in Council is reminded that a proportion of European civilians is essential to the maintenance of good government in India.

The conditions thus laid down for the guidance of the Government of India seem to me to be irreconcileable.

Sir A. Arbuthnot, in his minute, dicusses the object of the resolution. He says:—

I regard the proposal embodied in the resolution of the House of Commons as most dangerous, and as one which, if it were carried out, would be fatal to the efficiency of Indian administration. I consider it very questionable whether an open competitive examination even when conducted in England only, furnishes the best method of selecting natives of India for employment in the higher posts in the Indian Services, and for this reason I opposed the recent raising of the age for admission to the open competitive examination annually held in London, on the ground that it might tend to the appointment of an unduly large proportion of natives. There can be no doubt that this risk will be enormously increased if open competitive examinations are to be simultaneously held in India, and if the appointments are to be given on the combined results of the examinations thus held in London and in India. It has long been an axiom of Indian administration that the Civil Service of India must be mainly and essentially English, and that an adequate number of the members of that service shall always be Europeans, and this principle is emphatically affirmed in the concluding paragraph of the present despatch, but the assertion of the principle is preceded in the despatch by language which will not unnaturally be regarded by the Government of India as an instruction to give practical shape to a policy which is absolutely incompatible with the maintenance of that principle. In fact the despatch imposes upon the Government of India what my honourable and gallant colleague, Sir Donald Stewart, justly characterised in the debate in Council as an impossibility. The Government of India are to consider and report "in what mode in their opinion, and under what conditions and limitations, this resolution could be carried into effect," and at the same time they are told that "no scheme would be admissible which does not fulfil the essential condition" that "an adequate number of the members of the Civil Service shall always be Europeans." How under a system of competitive examinations to be held simultaneously in India and in England, and open to all subjects of the Queen-Empress, of whatever race, under twenty-three years of age, any safeguard can be applied by which it can be secured that an adequate number of the successful candidates shall be Europeans, passes my comprehension. The resolution lays down that all who compete are to be finally classified in one list "according to merit." If this rule be adhered to, how, I would ask, can it be secured, either that a certain proportion of the persons appointed shall be Europeans, or that the greater number, if not the whole, of the appointments which fall to natives of India shall not be absorbed by the physically weaker and less manly races. The problem I submit is from its nature, insoluble.

The best method of ensuring that the natives of India shall obtain a larger share of employment in the administration of their own country is, I am convinced, not to be found in any extension of the competitive examination system: that method is indicated in the statute which was passed in 1870 (33 Vict. cap. 3. sect. 6) and in the wise and statesmanlike language in which the Duke of Argyll announced the introduction of that Act to the Government of India. The object of the Act of 1870 was to provide additional facilities for the employment of natives of proved merit and ability in posts previously reserved by law to the members of the Covenanted Civil Service. The Act was the result of very careful consideration both in India and in England. It had the sanction of the experience and wisdom of the late Lord Lawrence. It was framed under the orders of Sir Stafford Northcote and was passed through Parliament by the Duke of Argyll. It was felt that the time had come for enlarging the sphere in which native officials, whose capacity and integrity had been established, might be employed both in the judicial and in the administrative branches of the Indian Service. It was recognised that the object in view was not to be accomplished by an extension of the system of competitive examinations, but by the adoption of a system of selection carefully and cautiously exercised by the various Governments in India. In the despatch to which I have alluded, the Duke of Argyll laid down that "our duty towards the natives of India in respect of giving them a larger share of employment in the administration of their own country, is a duty which must mainly be discharged in India on the principle of careful and cautious selection;" "that a more free employment of them in the Uncovenanted Service, and promotion according to tried ability from that Service to the Covenanted Service, would seem to be the method least beset with difficulties and least open to objection;" that "this would be a competitive examination of the best kind;" and, lastly, that "it should never be forgotten, and there should never be any hesitation in laying down the principle, that it is one of our first duties towards the people of India to guard the safety of our own dominion," and that for this purpose "we must proceed gradually, employing only such natives as we can trust, and these only in such offices and in such places as, in the actual condition of things, the Government of India may determine to be really suited to them." These are golden words, which should, I venture to think, be carefully considered by every man who is in any way concerned with the government of our great dependency. The first practical step taken to bring the Act of 1870 into operation—viz., the establishment of a Statutory Civil Service—was not successful, but that measure has been superseded by orders passed less than four years ago on the report of the Public Service Commission, under which full effect can be given to the provisions of the Act. In the meantime the number of English Civil Servants has been reduced to a minimum compatible with the efficiency of the administration. On the occasion of that inquiry the proposal to hold the open competitive examination in India as well as in England, was fully considered, and was decided by the Secretary of State in Council, in concurrence with the Public Service Commission and with the Government of India, to be inadmissible, as being "entirely foreign to the intentions of the framers of the competitive system, and open to grave practical objections."

The following is an extract from the minute recorded by Sir J. Peile:—

From the point of view of the Council there is no reason for making a reference to the Government of India. The duty of making regulations for the examination of candidates for the Indian Civil Service is placed by the Statute of 1858 upon the Secretary of State in Council, and not on the Government of India. This very question of holding simultaneous examinations for the Indian Civil Service in India has recently been fully considered by the Government of India on the report of the Public Service Commission. The conclusions of that Commission (including native members) against this proposal, were approved by the Government of India, and the Secretary of State and his Council in 1889 entirely and unanimously concurred in them.

Still less do we find reason for asking the Government of India to consider by what method, and with what conditions and limitations, simultaneous examinations for the Indian Civil Service could be held in India. We have rejected this proposal absolutely for very sufficient reasons. The Home Government supports our decision. To ask us to invite the Government of India to suggest how that could be done which we are convinced should not be done, is to call upon us to fatally compromise our position in the eyes of the Government of India, and eventually in the eyes of the people of India.

Mr. Chan-Toon (Barrister-at-Law) delivered a lecture before the members of the Balloon Society, on Friday, July 14, on the recent resolution of the House of Commons of holding the Indian Civil Service Examination simultaneously in India and England. The chair was taken by J. Bruce, Esq.

Mr. Chan-Toon opened his lecture by remarking that the Indian Civil Service Examination has been one of the most difficult tests for young men; and as he is not inexperienced with examinations, and having himself competed for that examination, he might claim to express his ideas upon the subject. The greatest objection to the new scheme was the fundamental differences of racial feeling.

Quite lately news has reached us of outbreaks and riots in different parts of British India, through the conflict between the Hindoos and the Mahomedans, and the suggested alteration would have the effect of subjugating the Mahomedans and Buddhists under the rule of Bengalee graduates. The idea originated with the Congress Party, who are composed of Bengalees. Their cause has been espoused through tall talk of liberty and equality by Messrs. Paul, Naoroji, and Sir Wm. Wedderburn in the House of Commons. The arguments advanced by these Indian champions were fully met by Sir George Chesney and Mr. G. Russell.

On the surface Mr. Paul's motion is laudable; but he failed to prove that a change was desirable. The question to be answered is—Would the Indian Civil Service be benefited by the change? Even the present system does not fully produce able governors and administrators, and the suggestion would expose the weak points and draw-backs to a further risk. Indian education is hardly sufficient as a qualification for the higher appointments in the Indian Civil Service, and it is admitted on all hands that an English education is necessary. With some experience of the present generation of educated young men, the lecturer was convinced that some years of residence in England are necessary to appreciate the institution and form of government of a nation whose civilization in this direction was considered the highest evolved. Upon a question of this kind the House of Commons, unassisted by the Government of India, is wholly incompetent to deal with, and true Indian opinion cannot be obtained from the wild agitations on the part of the literary Baboos. If the resolution were carried into effect the Indian Service would be deteriorated, the welfare of the people brought into jeopardy, and British prestige in the East lessened.

PARLIAMENT AND THE ROYAL WEDDING.

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

IN the House of Lords on Friday, July 14, Lord Kimberley moved that an address of congratulation be presented to her Majesty on the marriage of the Duke of York, and that congratulatory messages be addressed to the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York.—Lord Salisbury, in heartily seconding the motion, remarked that it represented the enthusiastic and universal feeling of the people of this country, who hoped that through that happy marriage her Majesty would be succeeded by descendants in the direct line, who would carry to a distant posterity the recollection of a reign never equalled in the prosperity and the blessing it had conferred on the three kingdoms.—The motion was then agreed to, *nemine contradicente*, amid cheers.

On Monday, July 17, Lord Carrington read the following reply from her Mujesty to their lordships' address:—"I sincerely thank you for your loyal and dutiful address. It is particularly gratifying to me to be assured that you participate in my feelings on the marriage of my beloved grandson, the Duke of York, with the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, and in the confidence that by God's blessing this event will conduce to the hapiness of my family and the welfare of my people."

In the Commons Mr. Gladstone moved an Address of Congratulation to her Majesty, and messages of congratulation to the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York upon the recent Royal marriage. Deprecating dissent even on the part of a single member as tending to diminish the grace of the act, he declared that on all the numerous occasions when the House had approached her Majesty with expressions of loyalty and sympathy, it had done so not as a mere matter of form, but with sentiments of real interest and sympathy in the welfare of the Real Family. The interest which attached to her Majesty's illustrious reign grew with every addition to its progressive length, and that interest could never have been expressed in greater warmth or greater sincerity than on the present occasion. Adverting to the heavy bereavement sustained by the Prince and Princess of Wales last year, the right hon. gentlemen rejoiced that the Princess's strength had been found equal to the strain, and testified to the hold which she had established upon the admiration and affection of every subject of her Majesty. Of the Duke of York's character, capacity, and disposition, he spoke in warm terms, and expressed his belief that his Royal Highness had found a consort in every way worthy of him, and that their union had been based upon those considerations by which every marriage ought to be exclusively governed.—Mr. Balfour seconded the motion, observing that the House was fortunate above many other nations in that on such an occasion they could forget the stress and passion of party controversy, and join with one heart and spirit in offering their congratulations upon an event which was of national interest and importance.—Mr. W. Redmond expressed his deep regret that the opportunity had not been taken for granting an amnesty to the political prisoners.—Mr. Keir Hardie complained that whilst time was refused for considering the miseries of the poor and the unemployed, the course of public business was interrupted, in order to go through the mummery of passing an address which many members believed was not called for.—Mr. Chamberlain, in supporting the motion, reminded Mr. Keir Hardie that even the poor and miserable for whom he professed to speak would not grudge the action of the House on such an occasion.—The resolution was agreed to nem. con.

Mr. C. R. Spencer read the following message from the Queen:—"It is with great satisfaction that I have received your loyal and dutiful address expressive of the interest which you feel in the marriage of my beloved grandson, the Duke of York, with the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, and the assurances of the loyal affection which you entertain towards my person and family are most gratifying to me." (Hear, hear.)

ROYAL MESSAGE.

On Tuesday, July 18, Mr. Leveson Gower read the following reply to the loyal address presented to the Prince and Princess of Wales by the House:—"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—The message of congratulation sent to us by your honourable House on the occasion of the marriage of our son with the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck has given sincere pleasure to the Princess of Wales and myself. We see with gladness that the sympathy of the House of Commons, which helped to support us in our hour of sorrow, now again meets us in a season of joy. We thank you heartily for your kind words and wishes, and it is our earnest hope that this union, founded in love, and marked by the unanimous goodwill of the nation, may not only conduce to the happiness of our dear son and his bride, but may also serve, in the common interests and trials of life, to knit to them the heart of the people." (Hear, hear.)

A marriage has been arranged between Earl Bathurst and Miss Lilias Borthwick, daughter of Sir Algernon and Lady Borthwick.

THE SILVER PROBLEM.

MR. CHAPLIN ON THE CLOSING OF THE INDIAN MINTS.

THE Right Hon. Henry Chaplin writes to the *Statist*:—"It would be very hard, I think, to blame the Government of India for the action they have taken with regard to the currency of that country. What may be the full extent of the mischiefs and the evils which it must occasion no one probably can predict with accuracy at present; and it is impossible perhaps to estimate the loss which till now it has caused. But the most limited knowledge of the vast amount of securities which are dependent on the value of silver is sufficient to show that it must already be appalling, and it accounts for the general uneasiness, not to say alarm, which prevails to-day in financial and other circles. Among the grave objections to this measure, not the least perhaps, in my opinion, is the cruel loss which no one can defend, and which by a stroke of the pen has been deliberately inflicted on the native population of India. If we take the estimate of Sir David Barbour as to the amount of uncoined silver in the hands of the natives (as given in his evidence before the Gold and Silver Commission) to be approximately accurate—something like 130 millions sterling—the value of their hoards and the ornaments they wear have been arbitrarily depreciated already to an extent which must amount to many millions sterling, with the practical certainty of further depreciation and still heavier losses in the future. If we can imagine such an act of flagrant and unblushing spoliation to be perpetrated on the English people, the Governments who were responsible would be swept from power in a week. It will be more than we deserve if we escape a worse disaster in that country when the native population begin to realise the meaning of the closing of the Indian mints to them. There are other and numerous objections to this policy—chief among them all the appreciation of gold—with the innumerable evils which it brings, and which it must increase. But the space which you offer me will not admit of their discussion. But whatever they are, and whatever may be the ultimate outcome of this rash and dangerous experiment, the blame must rest entirely with the Government of England. The action of the Indian Government was determined, I apprehend, by the failure of the Conference at Brussels to come to any definite arrangement, and for this failure I have always held that England was mainly responsible. The Conference was warned in pregnant words by Mr. Alfred Rothschild of the consequences which would follow if it should separate without arriving at some settlement of the question, and the vindication of his judgment is apparent in the position of to-day. But the cynical indifference—I had almost said hostility—of another English delegate, Mr. Bertram Currie, to silver and silver interests was undisguised. If that is still to be the policy of England with regard to silver, and if that view should continue to privail (as selfish and fatal as it is short-sighted), I see nothing but suffering and disaster for countless interests in the future."

THE EFFECT OF THE NEW POLICY ON TRADE.

The *Statist*, dealing with the new silver policy and its probable effects on trade says:—"We have often pointed out that the tendency of a falling exchange is to stimula'e exports, and, consequently, the more the exchange is steadied the more completely is that stimulus withdrawn. Other influences, of coure, may enable India to maintain her exports, but so far as exchange operates the tendency will be to check exports from India. It is reasonable to expect, therefore, that there will be a rush to export Lancashire goods to India for a while, that after a longer or shorter period the Indian market will be glutted, and that the glut will come the sooner if, as seems likely, the export trades from India are at all checked. Then there is the question as to whether India can maintain her exports of tea, for example, in competition with China and Ceylon. Furthermore, there is the question whether India can maintain her competition in the wheat trade with the United States, Rusia, and Australasia. If the competition is made more difficult to her to that extent clearly her ability to buy from Lancashire will be diminished.

THE FRENCH COMMERCIAL PIASTRE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Financial Times* writes under date of July 13:—"The question of dealing more earnestly with the French commercial piastre upon which, now that free coinage has been suspended, the currency reform in the French colonies has to be based—in the manner the rupee has been treated in India— has not advanced at all. The Press here does not apparently, understand the matter, and most of our papers financial and otherwise, do not even know that the first step for this reform has already been taken. The *Temps* alone, apparently inspired by communications coming from that cleverly managed institution, the Banque de l'Indo-Chine, devotes an article to the subject, in which it is stated that Cochin-China exports about 70 per cent. to China and 30 per cent. to Europe, almost exclusively in rice, which China must buy from the French colony without considering what fictitious valuation the future piastre may have through Government intervention. As to competition, it appears that Cochin-China has nothing to fear from Burmah, where the rupee will in future rule at 1s. 4d., nor from Siam, which produces so little, so far as rice goes, that it counts for nothing.

THE FUTURE OF SILVER.

Mr. Ottomar Haupt, in the course of a lengthy communication to the *Financial Times* of July 17, says:—Bankers have become so nervous about the developmnet of this dreadful Silver Question that they have little or no confidence in quotations received from the Far East, and prefer to look on. But while, apparently, Asiatic business in bar silver, Mexican dollars and exchange has suffered tremendously during the past fortnight, in Africa, where the so-called Levantine dollar is used for payments, its purchasing power has not diminished in conformity with the metal of which it consists. In St. Petersburg the price of silver roubles is no longer quoted, they being considered identical with the paper rouble. Proceeding to discuss the question as to what will become of silver when the Sherman Act shall have been abolished, Mr. Haupt continues:—Nothing remains for the Straits Settlements but the introduction of a regular gold standard, based upon the monetary system of the Mother Country, which would necessitate a recoinage of the fractional currency. As regards China, matters there will be left unchanged, the vast Celestial Empire will stick to its silver currency, and perhaps make us to a greater extent of the national coin already struck in the Canton Mint, the so-called Dragon dollar, to the detriment of the Mexican dollar. On China, therefore, we may continue to look for certain as a good customer for the metal rejected by other Eastern countries. Japan, on the other hand, which has already the double standard on the ineffective basis of 1 to 16·17 will imitate the example of India by adopting a ratio more in harmony with present silver-prices and give gold altogether the preference in future. All things considered, I am of opinion that after the abolition of the Sherman Act the absorption of silver annually will figure out nearly as follows:—

	Kilos fine Silver.
Industrial consumption	600,000
China, figure for 1892 without returns to India.	490,000
Japan, half molety of 1892	115,000
Straits Settlements, rough estimate	330,000
Balance remaining in Mexico	50,000
English coinages, figure for 1892	101,000
Other coinages, say	71,000
Total future consumption	1,760,000

This estimate still appears to me too high; as it stands, it represents about 40 per cent. of last year's production of the mines of the world, which, consequently, would have to reduce their output by about 60 per cent. Needless to say that an arrangement of that sort is quite an impossibility, and that every mine will adopt the coursedictated by its peculiar circumstances. . . . Of course, nobody can forecast the future, but this much can be predicted, that the reign of silver is over, and that the fall of its price will, practically speaking, be only limited by the cost of production. My belief is that the metal will after some heavy fluctuations during the time the Silver Question is under discussion in the American Congress, settle down at about 25*d.*, with a tendency to fall still lower. . . . India has taken a move in the right direction. Every other country must henceforth take care of its interests, though the favourable moment for getting rid of surplus silver is lost. On that score no doubt serious difficulties will have to be encountered almost everywhere, but that cannot be helped. The example of India has to be followed coute que coute. Let us hope the sacrifices entailed will not prove too heavy for the nations chiefly affected at the present moment, and likely to be still more menaced in the future.

MEMORIAL FROM THE EASTERN BANKS.

A memorial has been presented to Lord Kimberley, Secretary for India, on behalf of the Eastern Banks. The memorial points to the serious loss which will be entailed unless the Government reconsiders its decision to exclude the silver which on June 26 last was in transit to India, and which amounts in the aggregate to £1,500,000. The silver, it is pointed out, was not purchased by any of the banks by way of speculation, but solely to fulfil obligations. It is held that if the banks are not allowed to have their silver converted into rupees on the terms existing previous to June 26 the actual loss to them will not be less than £120,000. The banks based their trust on the precedents laid down by the Government of India itself in the protection of goods in transit in cases where import duties have been levied or increased, and the principle laid down in the Indian Contract Act by which the incidence, if any, falls on the buyer or recipient of the goods, the latter being in the case of silver the Government itself. *It is* a necessity of the situation that there must always be a large amount of silver in transit, or the commerce of India would be disorganised. The banks are in hopes, the memorial concludes, that his lordship will use his best efforts to avert from them the serious and unexpected loss, and secure for them the coinage of the silver in transit.

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2nd Dragoons—Lieut A D Miller to be Captain, in succession to Major W H Hippisley, Adjutant of Yeomanry. Lieut A

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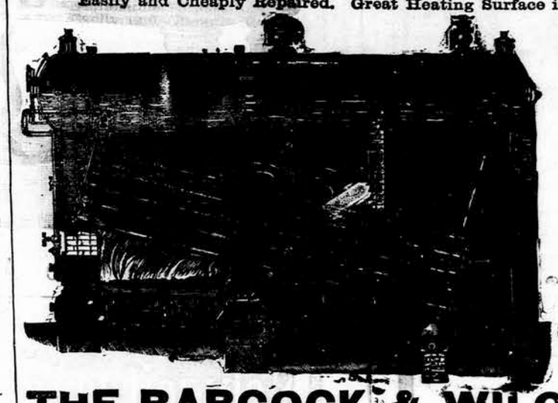

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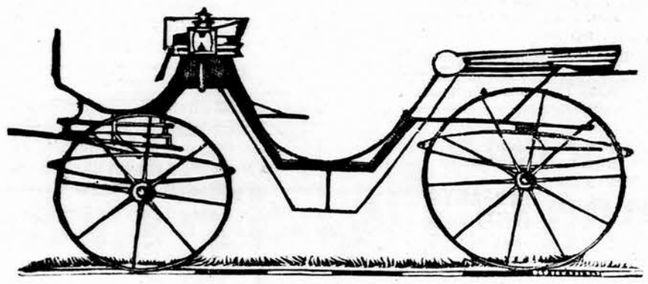

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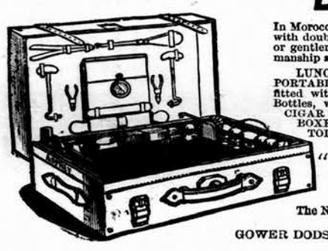

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